

US and Iran in secret deal over hostages

The first details emerged yesterday of a remarkable secret package deal between America and Iran to secure the release of US hostages and restore relations between the two countries...

From Robert Fisk, Athens. Iranian régime, carrying with him a Bible signed by President Reagan, a box of cakes for Iranian officials and a list of conditions to improve relations between the two countries...

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Mr McFarlane: Undercover trip to Tehran.

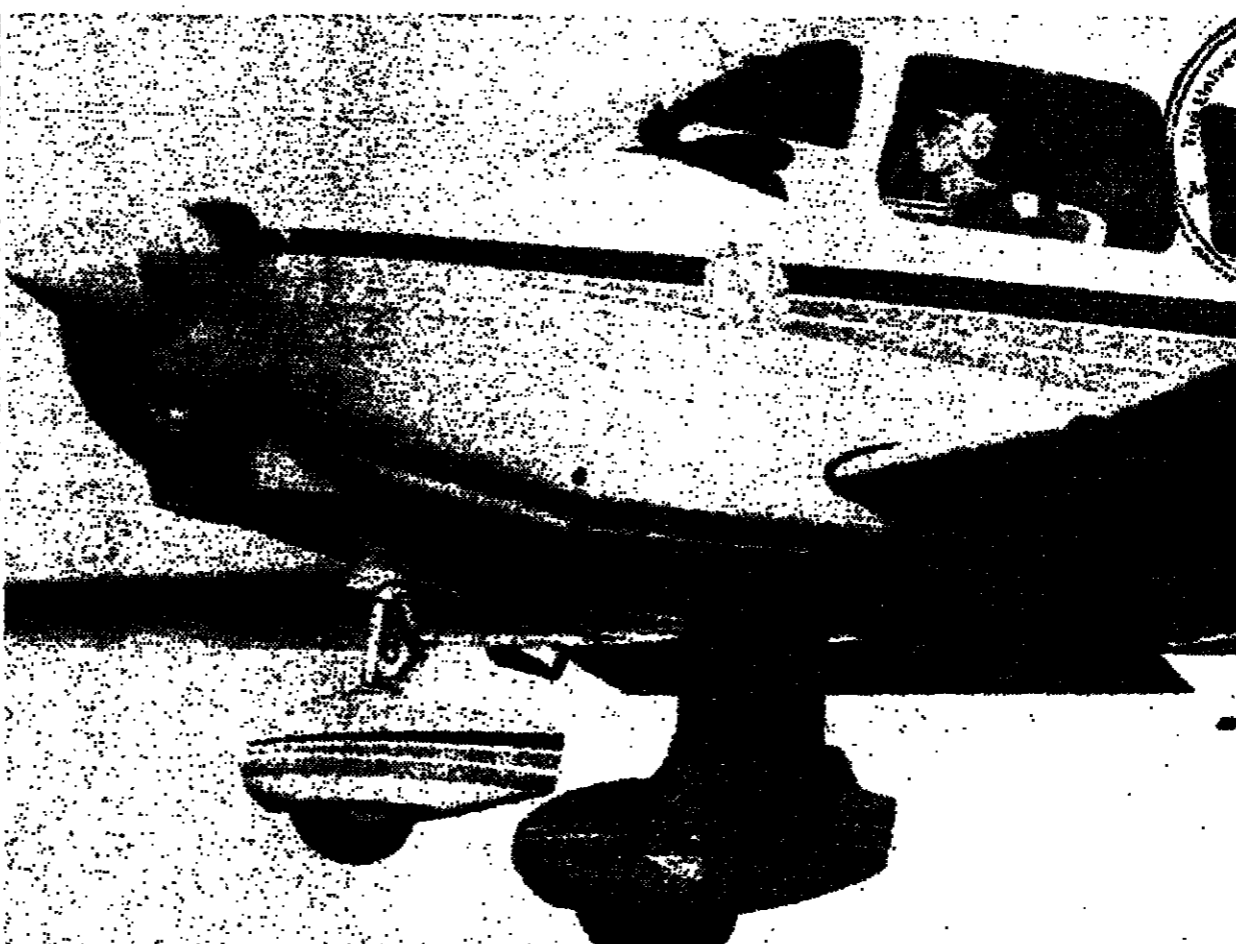
Mr McFarlane, an American diplomat, who travelled with him, had arrived on board a plane loaded with American weapons and had been imprisoned for five days and then deported.

and at least once since then - was trying to negotiate the release of three US hostages held in Lebanon.

The Times has been told that a series of secret negotiations has been underway between the US and Iran for some months over the Lebanese hostages in which a senior Syrian diplomat has acted as intermediary between Washington and Tehran.

Aircraft carrying military spare parts and ammunition for the Iranian Army in its war with Iraq have flown to Iran with US permission, reportedly in return for Iranian concessions over the hostages and an end to Iranian involvement in international bombings and assassinations.

One of the earliest shipments of American arms to Iran - which travelled with full American cognizance - came from Israel as part payment for exit visas to be granted to Iranian Jews wishing to travel to Israel.



Royal head in the clouds: The Duchess of York on her first solo flight yesterday. (Photograph: Julian Herbert)

BBC reply today on bias claim

The BBC will today issue a sharply-worded reply to complaints by Mr Norman Tebbit, chairman of the Conservative Party, about its coverage of the United States bombing raid on Libya last April.

Yesterday relations between the corporation and the BBC hierarchy continued to deteriorate over the affair and Mr Tebbit's dossier of criticism. They see the crucial questions as those of professional competence and managerial reaction to programme makers who fall below the required standards.

Tory chiefs are angry that the BBC, in their view, is attempting to "move the goalposts" in its response to Mr Tebbit's dossier of criticism.

Senior Conservatives believe that the BBC has, in its broadcasts since, attempted to imply that Mr Tebbit's complaints were of political bias against the Conservative Party, highlighting an opinion.

Russians agree to terrorism talks with UK

The Soviet Union yesterday accepted a British initiative for talks on joint efforts to combat terrorism, British and Soviet experts are expected to have their first meeting before the end of the year, probably in London.

Mr Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, welcomed the British suggestion yesterday when he met Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in Vienna.

The joint effort is seen by Britain as offering a valuable opportunity to distance the Soviet Union from countries suspected of involvement in state-financed terrorism, such as Syria.

But Sir Geoffrey warned that full co-operation between East and West will not be achieved until the Soviet Union improves its human rights record. His speech on the opening day of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation linked peace to individual freedom.

The conference is the third follow-up to the Helsinki process begun in 1975, in which every European state except Albania made commitments on minimum human rights standards and other issues.

The flying Duchess goes solo

The Duchess of York yesterday took to the air for the first time on her own, just four weeks after starting to learn to fly.

Watched by her instructor, Mr Colin Beckwith, and a battery of press and cameras, the 27-year-old Duchess, wearing a bright green jumper, camouflage-style trousers and with her hair in a pony-tail, flew solo in a 15-minute circuit over the Oxford countryside, at the controls of a Piper Warrior four-seater aircraft.

The Duchess, who had flown to RAF Benson, the headquarters of the Queen's Flight, in a helicopter, warmed up with three circuits of the airfield, accompanied by Mr Beckwith, who is principal instructor at Oxford Air Training School.

Then she sat alone in the cockpit revving up the single-engine plane and waiting for air traffic controllers to tell her that she was clear for take-off.

Mr Beckwith shook her warmly by the hand and said: "Well done, I told you you could do it."

Baker in direct appeal to heads

By Howard Foster

The dispute between the second largest teachers' union and the Government escalated yesterday when Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, took the unusual step of writing personally to every head teacher in Britain to explain his pay offer.

Mr Baker himself received a letter yesterday, from Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, who restated the reasons for his union's demand for a 50 per cent pay rise, as opposed to the 16.4 per cent proposed by Mr Baker.

Mr Smithies said that the NAS/UWT would be willing to ballot its members on any settlement agreed at this weekend's meeting in Nottingham between unions and employers.

His letter was coupled with a warning that widespread disruption could follow if Mr Baker follows his stated aim of imposing the settlement on the teachers by law if no agreement is reached.

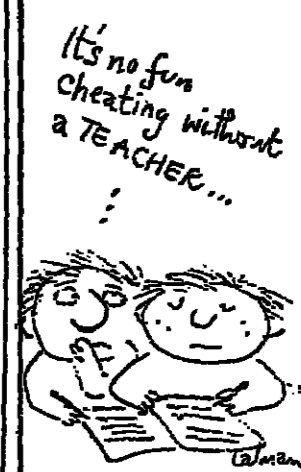
He said: "We shall obviously comply with the law. We are not a group of anarchists but government should make carefully considered decisions. If Mr Baker's solution is pursued, the prospects of a peaceful and constructive atmosphere are low."

Yesterday the union claimed that more than 40,000 of its 127,000 membership had taken part in half-day strikes which affected 630,000 pupils.

Yesterday brought more injunctions from counties including Devon, Cornwall and West Sussex, stopping teachers from striking without a ballot. The union did not oppose the injunctions, on the ground of cost.

The union's disruptive action yesterday was described as "utterly disgraceful" by the Prime Minister.

She said in Parliament that it showed no regard whatsoever for the children in the care of teachers.



Tomorrow Nott's landings



Sir John Nott argues that we should remember the Suez failure, not the Falklands success, when planning the future defence of Britain.

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was won yesterday by Mr J.D. Rothwell of south-west London.

TIMES PROPERTY 2,658 houses for sale

There are ten pages of property advertisements today with 2,658 houses up for sale.

TIMES BUSINESS Maxwell stake

Mr Robert Maxwell has increased his stake in McCormac, the printer and publisher, to 17.2 per cent after buying at prices above those on the stock market.

£44.3m sales

Albert Fisher Group is paying £44.3 million for companies in Britain and the US. This will boost its size by 37.5 per cent.

TIGHT FINISH

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Sports, Arts, Births/Deaths, Marriages, Divorces, Deaths, Festivals. Includes dates and page numbers.

Le Grange goes in Pretoria reshuffle

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr Louis Le Grange, South Africa's powerful Minister of Law and Order, was removed yesterday in a Cabinet reshuffle announced by President Botha.

His replacement is an interesting choice, Mr Stoffel Vaar Der Merwe, a member of a group of about 30 backbench MPs of the ruling National Party known as the "New Nats" who are said to favour a much faster pace of political reform.

For the rest, the reshuffle is largely a case of musical chairs, occasioned in part by the retirement of some older ministers.

Key ministers, such as General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister; Mr Pik Botha, the Foreign Minister; Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning; and Mr F.W. De Klerk, the Minister of National Education; stay where they are.

Speculation that the South African Ambassador in London, Mr Dennis Worrall, might be brought back home, possibly to be given Mr Nel's information portfolio, proved unfounded.

Reserves down £474m

Britain's gold and foreign currency reserves slumped by \$668 million (£474 million) last month - the biggest fall in four years - as the Bank of England propped up the pound.

End of Russian line nowhere in sight

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

As the Soviet Union prepares for Friday's 69th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, there is mounting frustration that Mr Gorbachev's economic reforms have failed to make any impression on one of the greatest burdens of Soviet life - queuing.

By rationing the amount of vodka available, queues outside the dismal-looking state liquor stores have recently grown longer, with pensioners offering (for a price) to keep the places of those at work for up to four or five hours.

Yard faces inquiry after TV claims

By Stewart Tomlin, Crime Reporter

A provincial police team was called into Scotland Yard yesterday to investigate serious allegations involving a London gangster and his relationship with Yard detectives.

The inquiry, headed by the chief constable of South Yorkshire, follows claims in a World in Action television programme that investigations into the criminal, who was also a top informant, were frustrated.

Mr Gerald Wiltshire, a former Yard detective superintendent, said another officer talked of a plan to kill him and junior officers were threatened with losing their careers.

As the investigation was announced two Labour MPs yesterday followed up the programme by naming and accusing a senior Yard detective of corruption using Parliamentary privilege to quote from an internal Yard inquiry.

The motion was tabled by Mr Clive Solely, MP for Hammersmith and a spokesman on Home Affairs, and Mr Christopher Smith, MP for Islington South, following the programme on Monday which examined the relationship between Roy Garner and Scotland Yard.

Networks in deal on US poll

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Polling in the US mid-term elections got off to a slow start yesterday, as poor weather and voter apathy threatened to produce one of the lowest turnout in years.

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Emergency work is not all blood and anguish — carpentry skills may be needed

Examining the facts at Guy's casualty ward

It is 8.42pm in the casualty ward of Guy's Hospital and Dr David Walsh has just completed the first hour of a shift which will not end until 8.30 next morning.

Behind a curtain a boy aged 15 is having his hand dressed after a firework accident and a queue of 12 people wait patiently in the corridor for their turn.

A nurse is looking for a saw to cut a walking stick down to size. "I'll never make a carpenter," she said with a wry smile.

The BBC's drama series, *Casualty*, which has just ended, attracted a Saturday night audience of nine million viewers.

It angered doctors and nurses at the hospital where it was researched and prompted allegations of anti-Government bias from ministers.

William Greaves spent a night in one of London's busiest casualty wards to compare fact with fiction.

"It's a stressful job and we all have our social problems like anyone else, but we don't bring them to work with us and we don't shout them out to all and sundry in the coffee room."

"Nurses are human beings first and we behave like human beings. We're not angels — we eat, drink and sleep like anyone else."

"Nurses do go out with doctors, of course they do, but they go out with policemen and firemen and bank managers, too. Whoops..."

Suddenly, the doors of the ward crash open and a man carrying a young woman in his arms shouts "Emergency, emergency!" at the top of his voice.

Casualty receptionist Carmel Rowe took the name and age of the woman and entered: "Difficulty in breathing" into the register.

The other entries made it a typical enough list — acute asthma; a 31-year-old man who had injured his right arm in a fall; a woman in labour; another with an infected finger; someone from Kent with abdominal pain; an ear infection; lacerated finger and injured right ankle.

"The waiting time is about two to three hours at the moment," Carmel said. "Everybody who comes here gets seen, but the surprising thing is how many people come with injuries and illnesses which are really routine — much better taken to their doctor's surgery."



Sister Diana Smith (left) prepares a plaster for Sarah Allbury, while Student Nurse Mandy Cavin comforts a distressed woman (Photographs: Alan Weller).

which comes in gets seen immediately and pushes them further down the queue. The lights of an ambulance alert the staff back into action stations, but this time there are no signs of alarm. An elderly man in a dressing gown is wheeled in by two ambulancemen.

They know where to go and one of them returns to the desk to give name and address. "CVA," he says succinctly, and the entry is made. "Cardiac Vascular Accident," Carmel explains. "It means stroke really, but we use the initials because if the patient or relatives overhear they tend to get frightened."

The time ticks by and the queue gradually shortens in the corridor. Nurses making coffee in the rest room and heating up the dimmers they have brought with them all agree that the biggest inaccuracy in any television representation of casualty wards is the speed with which things happen and the constant evidence of blood and gore.

Serious road accidents, knifings and other manifestations of violent society are few and far between, they say. But one of the messages of the latest television series — and, ironically, the one which has created the most angry response in government circles — was readily confirmed by Sister Diana Smith. "I've been in nursing for 10 years," she says, "and there is no doubt that the cuts in NHS spending are really beginning to bite."

"Hospital stocks have been reduced so much that we have gone weeks without any slings and we've been without tubular dressings for four or five weeks now."

"Just imagine it — a casualty department without slings. It isn't the hospital's fault, but it all adds to the workload."

"We're also terribly short of beds. We've got 12 bays here and half the time they are filled with people who have to be admitted, but are waiting for a bed in a ward."

"Our record is a patient stuck behind a curtain for 7½ hours, just because there was nowhere else to put him. It isn't just their inconvenience, it could mean that if a really serious multiple road crash comes in all our accommodation for treating the casualties is taken up by people who shouldn't be here at all."

By 3.30am Dr Walsh is just beginning to relax. He has been working single-handed without a break for six hours and the queue has almost disappeared.

"We're down to the alcoholics anonymous cases now," he jokes, ruefully listening to the obscene language coming from a drunken man, who has brought his equally drunk girlfriend in with a cut head.

"We're too busy for politics and by and large we get by," he says. "But it's the nursing staff who are really feeling the strain and particularly the student nurses — they get all the lousy jobs because there's no one else to do them."

House price rises remaining steady

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House prices increased in Britain by 13.6 per cent during the year to the end of October, according to the latest house price index published by the Halifax Building Society yesterday.

This is the same as the plateau of increases reached in July and August. The figures show that in the past three months, house prices have increased by 2.9 per cent compared with 2.5 per cent in the three months to the end of September, but remain well below the peak of 5.4 per cent reached in the three months to June.

New house prices increased by 11.4 per cent in the year to October compared with 10.7 per cent in September. As a result of the increase, house prices inflation remains at four times retail price inflation and nearly double that of average earnings.

The Halifax states that the average price of all houses stands at £41,558, while the average for new houses is £46,780. The average price paid by first-time buyers in October was £31,420, 13.4 per cent higher than a year ago.

For London the rate of increase remains at an annual 25 per cent, similar to that for the past five months. In the South-east the annual increase has been 20 per cent.

The Halifax forecasts that house price inflation in 1987 will remain in double figures.



Search for Barton girl's body

Detectives are hoping that Ronald Barton, the convicted murderer, will show them the exact place where he hid the body of his stepdaughter, Kagsley.

Barton, who was jailed for life last week for killing the girl, aged 14, told prison staff that he dumped her body in an overgrown cemetery in Stoke Newington, north London.

Police with dogs started their search of the 32-acre cemetery on Monday and yesterday a team of 60 police cadets arrived to help.

Det Supt Charles Farquhar, leading the investigation, said a full search of the rambling graveyard would take three days.

"The day after he was sentenced Barton told a member of the prison staff that he had hidden her body here," Mr Farquhar said.

"We had hoped to get him to show us exactly where he had hidden her."

Chemical threat to barn owls

Conservationists fear that barn owls are facing yet another threat to their diminishing population in the shape of a new and potent agricultural poison.

More than a dozen of the increasingly rare birds have been found dead in the Ipewich and Woodbridge area of Suffolk in the past few days.

Mr Reg Snook, a Department of the Environment wildlife inspector, yesterday said: "All the signs point to poison".

Laboratory tests are being carried out to determine why they died, but it looks as though farmers could be using a new, much more powerful pesticide which owls are taking in.

Barn owl numbers in East Anglia have been drastically reduced because of increased traffic, traps, and the disappearance of their natural habitat.

MP's benefit plea for young athletes

By Angela Johnson

The future of some of Britain's best sporting hopes may rest on a case being put to the House of Commons this week to stop unemployed amateurs losing their social security benefit while competing abroad.

Mr Alan Williams, Labour MP for Swansea West, plans to argue the case of the Welsh athlete, Karen Hough, in an early day motion for a new benefit rule, which would allow athletes to claim supplementary benefit while competing in overseas championships.

Karen, aged 18, of Bryony-Bryn, Killay, Swansea, is one of Britain's top junior javelin throwers. She lost her £47 benefit for two weeks while competing in the European Championships in Stuttgart because the DESS ruled that she was unavailable for work.

She was told by her local benefit office that her attendance at competitions abroad could not receive any money

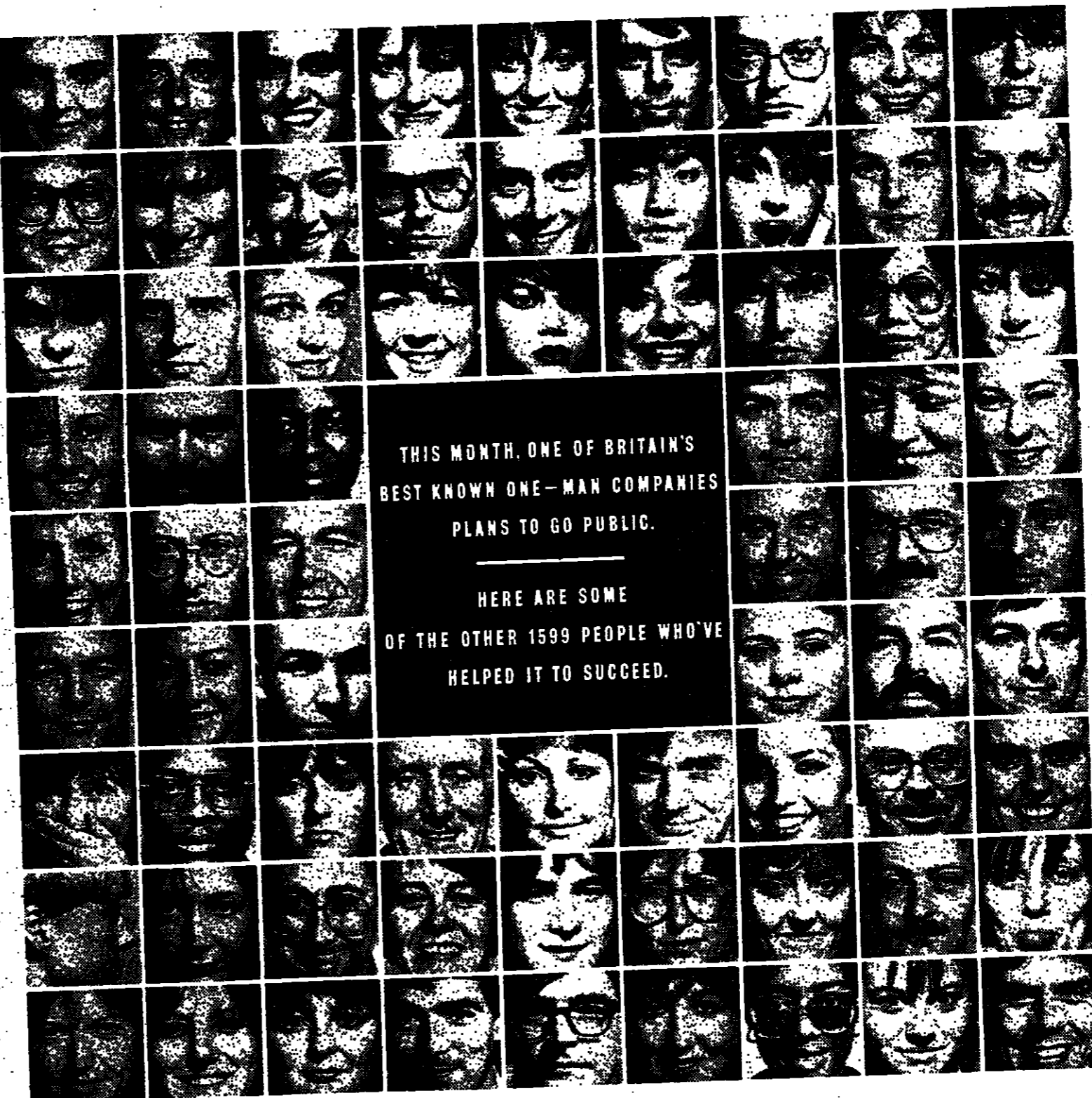
because she could not attend job interviews. Mr Williams appealed to Mr Nicholas Lyell, Under Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, but was told in a letter that the rules could not be relaxed.

Karen said: "I was very upset when I returned, to find that my money had been stopped and I had to sign on again, but this is not uncommon among young athletes."

"Fortunately I was able to turn to my parents for financial support, but many full-time amateurs find it difficult to cope and are unable to attend international events. Yet it is this experience which is needed to help us become medal winners."

Mr Tony Ward, of the British Amateur Athletics Board, said: "The current law hits at the athletes of the future, who at present are struggling to find enough money to live on while dedicating themselves to improving their skills."

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FROM THE ROCK MARKET TO THE STOCK MARKET.

# Civil Servants responding to demands for more efficiency

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

The Civil Service, so often criticized for being bureaucratic and unwieldy, is well on the way to becoming a much more efficient government machine, a report disclosed yesterday.

The optimistic assessment comes after a detailed inquiry by Sir Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, into how Whitehall has responded to ministerial attempts to improve the Civil Service's effectiveness and achieve better value for money from government spending which totals more than £100 million.

His investigation concentrates on how individual departments reacted to a financial management initiative (FMI) launched in May 1982 by the Prime Minister, whose underlying aim was to encourage a more managerial approach to government business.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's efficiency drive was intended to improve the allocation, management and control of resources throughout central government.

Thirty-one government departments were required to

review their systems of management responsibility, financial accountability and control.

They all ended up changing their practices or introducing new systems.

Sir Gordon looked specifically to see if the Whitehall shake-up would help Civil Service managers to secure better value for money.

"My broad conclusions are that real progress is being made in the development of suitable systems and there are not serious shortcomings in the departments examined," Sir Gordon said.

Individual government departments believe the efficiency initiative had results in greater cost-consciousness.

But Sir Gordon concluded that the new management systems had not been in place long enough for their full effect on gaining value for money to become apparent.

He added: "It is important to continue the work aimed at demonstrating not only that the FMI improves the quality of management but also that this improvement in turn results in better value for money."



Lining up for the annual Whitbread Book of the Year award are the five winners of the different literary categories, from left: Jim Crace, Peter Reading, Andrew Taylor, Richard Mabey, and Kazuo Ishiguro (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

# Solicitor questioned on £20m funds

A solicitor was questioned at a bankruptcy court yesterday about what had happened to £20 million of clients' money which went through an account he held.

Mr Anthony McGrath, aged 48, of Corcoran Road, Surbiton, Surrey, whose statement of affairs showed liabilities of more than £3 million, said that he found it incredible that he should be asked about the money.

Mr Jaffray Mogg, assistant official receiver, told him at Kingston Bankruptcy court: "From August 1984 to January 1985, sums totalling £20,489,804 went into your clients' account and it ended up with a zero balance."

Mr McGrath claimed his shareholding in a management consultancy was worth more than £1 million but, pressed by Mr George Davey, for the public trustee, he agreed that this depended on a forthcoming contract.

The public examination was adjourned until February 24.

# Whitbread Awards Tales of mystery and imagination contend for prize

By Philip Howard

A novel about those mysteries wrapped in original enigmas, old and new; a moral allegory-fantasy about a seventh out-of-this-world continent; the biography of the country curate who became England's most famous naturalist; a mystery adventure connected with the miners' strike; and some sharp, sardonic poems about contemporary Britain are the five category winners in the Whitbread Literary Awards.

The authors receive £1,000 each. On 13 January one of the five will be voted the Whitbread Book of the Year, and its author given a further £17,500, which makes the Whitbread Britain's most valuable literary prize.

The five category winners announced yesterday are:

**Novel**  
An Artist of the Floating World, by Kazuo Ishiguro (Faber, £8.95).

The time is 1948, the place Nagasaki. An ageing Japanese painter, famous before the world earthquake, looks back over his life in puzzlement and guilt, and painfully assesses his career that coincides with the rise of Japanese militarism.

Whatever mistakes it may have made in the past, Japan now has a chance to make a better go of things. He can only wish these new and alien young Japanese well. As delicate as a Japanese water-colour, this novel, exposing the roots of a complex culture, was on the short list for the Booker Prize. Ishiguro was born in Nagasaki in 1954, came to England when he was six, was educated at the universities of Canterbury and East Anglia, and writes beautifully and idiosyncratically in English; his Japanese is just about good enough to manage comica. Since his first novel, *A Pale View of Hills*, was given awards and international acclaim, Ishiguro has been one of our brightest young novelists writing in English.

**Children's novel**  
The Coal House, by Andrew Taylor (Collins, £5.95).

Alison is 13. Her mother has just died. She and her brother have been in the North 300 miles away from the world she knows. She is full of resentment, and determined to hate the rambling old Coal House, home of the Victorian pit owner. In the overgrown garden she meets Tommy, cheerfully trespassing, and begins to discover clues about the past owners of the house, and the tragedy in their lives.

Through her new friend, Tommy, she comes to identify with the local miners on strike, and becomes involved in their struggle. But there is another interloper lurking around the Coal House.

Alison and her father discover in their separate ways the secret of the stalker in the woods. Andrew Taylor was born in Scotland, but now lives in the Durham countryside. He is a marketing consultant, and has written several stage and television plays. This is his first novel for children.

**Poetry**  
Stet, by Peter Reading (Secker & Warburg, £1.95).

Harsh, violent verses come to terms with life in contemporary Britain in the front line. They are clever, witty, inventive, slangy, funny, and serious.

As the poet says in one of them: "Mussel sing the Grouchy (scant alternative)". He says of his poetry: "Art has always struck me most when it was to do with coping with things, hard things, things that are difficult to take."

If you want art to be like Ovaltine, then clearly some artists are not for you."

Ovaltine, he is not, but vodka, meths, and occasionally strychnine.

Peter Reading was born in 1946, and trained as a painter at Liverpool College of Art. After a spell as a teacher, he returned to Liverpool to lecture in the Department of Art History. He was given the Cholmondeley Award in 1978, and the Dylan Thomas Award in 1983.

He lives in Shropshire, and has had various jobs there including working in an animal-feed mill.

**First Novel**  
Chestnut, by Jim Crace (Heinemann, £4.95).

In the mythical science-fiction world of the seventh continent, past and present are discontinuous, and custom and progress form a dangerous flux. Seven stories interlock to explore the irreconcilable forces implicit in all cultures: a tribe on heat like dogs; a calligrapher loses his skill; a runner pitched against a horseman; a love story between a young girl and a soldier; a geologist searches for rare minerals. The techniques are bold and modern. The seven narratives combine to form a new world that seems strangely familiar. Jim Crace was born in 1946, and brought up in north London. He read English Literature as an external student at London University, worked in Sudanese educational television, and became a freelance journalist and script-writer. He was awarded a writing bursary by the Arts Council, and was writer in residence at the Midlands Arts Centre.

**Biography**  
Gilbert White, A Biography of the Author of *The Natural History of Selborne*, by Richard Mabey (Century, £14.95).

The language of birds is very ancient, and, like other ancient modes of speech, very elliptical: little is said, but much is meant and understood. Gilbert White's account of the intimate life of the birds and other wildlife around his parish 200 years ago is one of the best loved nature books ever written.

Both scientist and poet, and an intellectual in touch with the philosophical and cultural issues of his age, White deter-

**Children's novel**  
*Isaac Campion*, by Janni Howker; *Return of the Indian*, by Lynne Reid Banks; *Howl's Moving Castle*, by Diana Wynne Jones.

**Poetry**: *Terra*, by Ken Smith.

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# Woman says her sons are not racist

A woman who could lose her London council flat because her two sons allegedly abused their Bengali neighbour hours denied yesterday that her family were racists.

Mrs Maria Hawkins told Clerkenwell County Court that both her sons had gone to schools that had mixed racial groups and had "many ethnic friends".

Camden council is seeking to evict Mrs Hawkins's three-bedroom flat in the Blomendbury tower block, Dombey Street, on the Tybald Close estate in Holborn, central London, under the Housing Act 1980.

It is alleged that Frank Hawkins, aged 17, and his brother, Charles, aged 26, carried out a five-year campaign of racial harassment against Mr Abdul Ali and his wife and six children.

Frank Hawkins is also accused of punching one of Mr Ali's sons and smashing windows at their flat with a bench.

Although Mrs Hawkins is not accused of racial harassment herself, Camden wants

to evict her because it claims that as the tenancy holder she is responsible for the behaviour of people living in the flat.

The brothers have been summoned for causing "nuisance and annoyance" to the Ali family by racial harassment.

Mrs Hawkins faces two summonses for £138 rent and heating arrears and defying an earlier court order banning her misbegotten dog from the estate.

The case continues.

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COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

What has struck me immediately on this visit to the United States is the remarkable spirit of American optimism about disarmament that has followed Reykjavik. A near international catastrophe has been transformed into something close to a domestic political triumph.

This has been achieved partly by a calculated propaganda exercise on the part of the Administration and also by President Reagan's extraordinary capacity to make his countrymen share his own sunny view of the world.

This sense of optimism will now be put to an initial test with the first high-level meeting between Soviet and American leaders since the summit when Mr George Shultz and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze come together today in Vienna.

The American intention is that this should be an occasion not so much for fresh negotiations as for clarifying and refining the commitments that emerged in Reykjavik. This is certainly necessary.

The summit was characterized both by a failure to refine the issues before the two sides part there and by the confusion after they left as to what had or had not been tentatively agreed before the breakdown.

There appear now to be four principle differences between them. The United States is speaking of eliminating all offensive ballistic missiles at the end of 10 years, while the Soviets want to get rid of all strategic arms.

No agreement on limitations

Then they do not agree as to what limitations there should be within that period on research, development and testing of the Strategic Defence Initiative. Soviet diplomats appear to have been suggesting that their definition of laboratory testing might not be too restrictive. But that would not get round the American objection that they must be allowed to test a defective space system in space.

The third disagreement is that the United States wants the right to deploy SDI after 10 years, while the Soviet Union maintains that there should then be further negotiations on any possible deployment.

Finally, there are conflicting views as to what should be done about the smaller intermediate range missiles that the Soviet Union has in eastern Europe.

The United States argues that if the larger intermediate missiles — the Cruise, Pershings and SS20s — were all removed from Europe then there should be a freeze on Soviet deployment of the smaller missiles with the Americans having the right to match them. The Soviet Union would like to have simply a freeze at current levels, which would confirm their present advantage.

Even if agreement cannot be reached on any of these points, it would be sensible for both sides to be absolutely clear on where they differ. That is a more methodical procedure for negotiations and more likely to yield a lasting settlement in the long run.

But there are in fact two reasons for hoping that the discussions in Vienna do not get beyond the task of clarification. Mr Shultz has emerged as the principal enthusiast within the Administration for pressing for an extension of the Reykjavik base camp to a comprehensive settlement. If he were given his head in Vienna he might rush to ill-considered positions which would not be in the best interest of the Western Alliance.

The other reason for pausing at this stage is that a period of reflection is needed in Washington on the implications of Reykjavik. There are some signs of second thoughts beginning to emerge on the wisdom of talking about a non-nuclear world or of negotiating away all ballistic missiles and all Euro missiles.

The Administration is not all of one mind on these questions and a process of reassessment may become easier now that the mid-term elections are over.

It is very much in the interest of the European allies that this should take place because there is a real risk of the United States undermining confidence in its commitment to Europe almost unaware as it pursues such objectives as the elimination of ballistic missiles which are beyond its grasp anyway.

Howe call unheeded  
Shevardnadze ends hope of separate accord on missiles

From Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, Vienna

Any hope of an agreement to remove Soviet SS 20 and American cruise and Pershing 2 missiles from Europe without waiting for a comprehensive East-West disarmament accord was dispelled yesterday.

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, told Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, that the Soviet Union was prepared to accept nothing less than an overall agreement on nuclear weapons.

A meeting before the opening of the third follow-up to the European Conference on Security and Co-operation revealed no softening of the stand made by the Russians at last month's Reykjavik summit.

The Soviet demand that the US should agree not to test laser weapons in space as part of an overall nuclear agreement remained firm. Sir Geoffrey's calls for early progress to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear weapons (INF) and short-range missiles went unheeded.

"I told Mr Shevardnadze that it was illogical and a retrograde step to make such an agreement conditional on an understanding on SDI (the American Strategic Defence Initiative)," said Sir Geoffrey.

Mr Shevardnadze indicated that the Soviet Union now required that any package should cover progress on strategic weapons, intermediate range missiles and a longer period of non-withdrawal from the 1972 ABM (Anti-Ballistic Missile) Treaty.

Sir Geoffrey responded with two British Government linkages. Any agreement to eliminate INF missiles from Europe should also cover short-range nuclear missiles, and any overall nuclear agreement should be accompanied by comparable progress on troop reductions.

"The Russians say they are ready to scrap all nuclear weapons within 10 years," the Foreign Secretary said at a press conference later.

"If they are sincere — and there are many who remain to be convinced — no one in Western Europe can view that prospect as satisfactory while the continent lies under the shadow of the Soviet Union's superiority in conventional and chemical weapons."

He told Mr Shevardnadze that the Soviets would have to be more forthcoming with information on troop levels if progress were to be made on the ambitious troop cuts proposed by the Warsaw Pact in June.

Sir Geoffrey took Mr Shevardnadze to task for having effectively sided with the Syrians when Britain broke relations over the involvement of their ambassador and secret service in a plot to destroy an El-Al airliner. He said he would be looking for a "more constructive Soviet approach" on this issue.

However, Mr Shevardnadze welcomed a British initiative for Anglo-Soviet talks on terrorism. Experts from the two countries are expected to meet by the end of the year.

"Our aim was to find out whether there is scope for co-operation between the two countries on this," said Sir Geoffrey.

A Soviet expert yesterday called on the West to respond to the "Budapest appeal" in which the Warsaw Pact called for each side to withdraw 500,000 troops by the 1990s.

Mr Oleg Grinewski, head of the Soviet delegation at the Stockholm talks on advanced notice of military exercises which ended in September, said: "It is time they presented a programme for disarmament in Vienna. Further foot-dragging would not be in the interests of the world."



Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, meeting in Vienna yesterday.

WORLD SUMMARY

US setback on abortion curbs

Washington — The Supreme Court has severely set back nationwide efforts to restrict abortion by ruling that states cannot cut off public funds to private family planning and pregnancy counselling organizations that also offer abortions (Christopher Thomas writes).

The court, voting five to three, said in the majority decision that Arizona acted improperly when it barred state family planning funds for groups providing abortions or abortion counselling.

Mugabe insult Attack on Aids

Harare — A woman from Zimbabwe's Ndebele minority tribe has been jailed for six months without the option of a fine for saying that she wished the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, had been killed with Mozambique's President Machel in the October 19 air crash in northern South Africa (Michael Hartack writes).

Washington — The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has made new recommendations to further reducing the risk of Aids transmission through the blood supply, and has expanded the list of those who should not donate blood to include prostitute and their recent heterosexual customers (Mohsin Ali writes).

Rome orders Aids tests in prisons

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Italian Government has ordered that all consenting prisoners be tested to see if they are carrying the Aids virus. This is one of the steps being taken to deal with the release of an estimated 12,000 convicts before the year is out.

The exodus is due to more liberal prison regulations now coming into effect and to a projected amnesty due to be approved by Christmas. The first releases under the new regulations took place at the weekend and have now reached 250. It is estimated that as many as 5,000 prisoners may benefit.

The object of the prison reform is to concentrate on re-education. In principle, the prisoner who proves by his conduct that he is intent on self-improvement will be able to ask for remission of his sentence of up to 45 days for every six months served. He could also ask for an annual "holiday" of up to 45 days a year, to be taken in fortnightly periods.

A prisoner sentenced to life imprisonment will now be able to take some holiday after the first 10 years so long as he behaves well, has good relations with other prisoners and co-operates in the work of re-education. After another 10 years he will need only to sleep inside the prison. And finally he could expect to be granted an early release.

The problem involving the threat of a further spread of Aids is raised by the fact that legislation cannot be passed in time before the exodus takes place to make medical tests obligatory. At the moment the only one which can be imposed by law is the Wasserman test for syphilis.

Israel PM silent on Vanunu

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

The Prime Minister of Israel, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, made his first public comment yesterday about the disappearance of Mr Mordechai Vanunu, the nuclear technician who told *The Sunday Times* Israel had developed a nuclear arsenal.

Mr Shamir tersely told a radio reporter that Israel was not under any pressure to say anything on the subject. The Government, he said, would do so only when it deemed it appropriate and it would continue to do its duty by its citizens. He would say nothing else.

Alfonsin appeal

Buenos Aires (Reuter) — President Alfonsin of Argentina has asked President Reagan to support his protest against Britain's establishment of a fishing zone around the disputed Falkland Islands, a government statement said.

Señor Alfonsin made a 10-minute telephone call to Mr Reagan in California and asked for his "understanding and support".

Buses boycott Scheme for Suez

Johannesburg — Buses running between here and Soweto were boycotted for the second successive day in protest against a 17.5 per cent fare increase (Michael Hornsby writes).

One bus driver suffered eye injuries and concussion when his vehicle was attacked by a stone-throwing mob in Soweto.

Cairo (AFP) — The Suez Canal Authority may adapt the waterway for two-way working, the authority's president, Mr Ezzat Adel told a conference marking the 30th anniversary of its nationalization.

Egyptian labour equipment would be used, he said, but he gave no starting date.

Mozambique unrest  
Frelimo youth sack Malawi Embassy

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Angry youths sacked the Malawi Embassy and threw stones and rotten tomatoes at the offices of the South African Trade Mission in Maputo yesterday.

News of the demonstrations came as President Botha sent a message to President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, congratulating him on his election on Monday.

Pretoria claims that Mozambique is allowing guerrillas of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) to use its territory as a sanctuary, and Maputo maintains that South Africa is continuing to support Renamo insurgents inside Mozambique.

Yesterday's trouble started with a march by members of the youth organisation of Frelimo, Mozambique's sole political party. The intention had been to deliver a protest note to the South African and Malawi representatives, but part of the crowd turned violent and some stoned the South African Trade Mission, breaking several windows.

A larger group of demonstrators ransacked the Malawi Embassy, dragging furniture and piles of documents into the street and setting them alight. The Malawi flag was also torn down and thrown on the bonfire.

Slogans reading "Samora lives" and "Banda is a murderer" were daubed on the walls of the Embassy. The demonstrators also carried placards protesting for an explanation of the October 19 air crash, which Mozambique newspapers have accused

South Africa of being responsible for.

President Banda of Malawi, the southern tip of which thrusts deeply into central Mozambique, has been accused by Maputo to operate from his territory. Shortly before he died, President Machel threatened to instal missiles along the border with Malawi.

On October 21, young demonstrators in Harare, the Zimbabwe capital, stoned the Malawi High Commission and set fire to the offices of Air Malawi. They also attacked the South African Trade Mission, set fire to the South African Airways offices and threw stones at the American Embassy.

Mr Carlos Cardoso, the director of AIM, the semi-official Mozambique news agency, told *The Times* yesterday that Mr Sergio Vieira, the Minister of Security, went to the Malawi Embassy and persuaded the youths to disperse, telling them that this was not how President Machel would have wanted them to express their anger.

The South African Foreign Minister, Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, announced yesterday that Pretoria had decided to call for the inclusion of international experts in the panel investigating the air crash in which Mr Machel died.

HARARE: The Zimbabwe House of Assembly is to be asked to pass a resolution today pledging full support for President Chissano of Mozambique in his civil war with right-wing Mozambique Resistance Movement.

Oslo sends minister on pollution mission

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

Mrs Sissel Roenbeck, the Norwegian Minister for the Environment, today begins a two-day visit to Britain armed with a list of issues long enough to strain the eyesight, if not the patience, of her hosts.

She will, of course, be reiterating Oslo's demands that Britain join the 30 Per Cent Club of nations committed to reducing sulphur emissions from power stations — emissions that are thought to have poisoned thousands of Scandinavian lakes and rivers.

Hopes that Mrs Thatcher would commit Britain to such an endeavour when she visited Oslo in September were dashed amid fierce anti-British rioting there.

Mrs Roenbeck — who shortly after taking office in

May fired two of the most strongly worded messages Britain has ever received from Oslo on the issue of acid rain and proposals for a nuclear waste reprocessing plant at Dounreay — is expected to tell Mr William Waldegrave, her British counterpart, and Lord Marshall, head of the Central Electricity Generating Board, that concern over both issues has grown.

Recent studies show a strong link between levels of aluminium in drinking water and rates of pre-senility and senility (including Alzheimer's disease) in populations living within the "acid rain belt" of southern Norway.

"I'm only 35 and I'm worried," Mrs Roenbeck told *The Times*. "It really makes us anxious."

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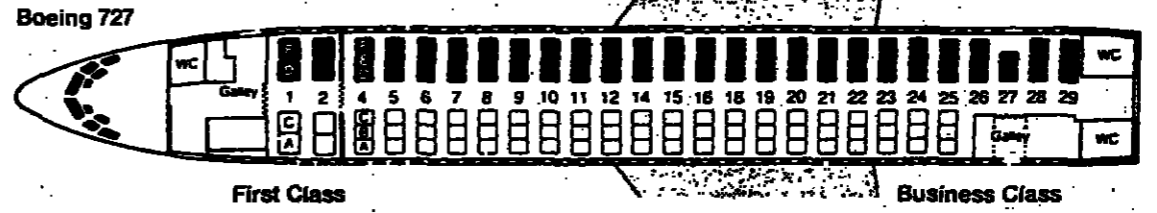
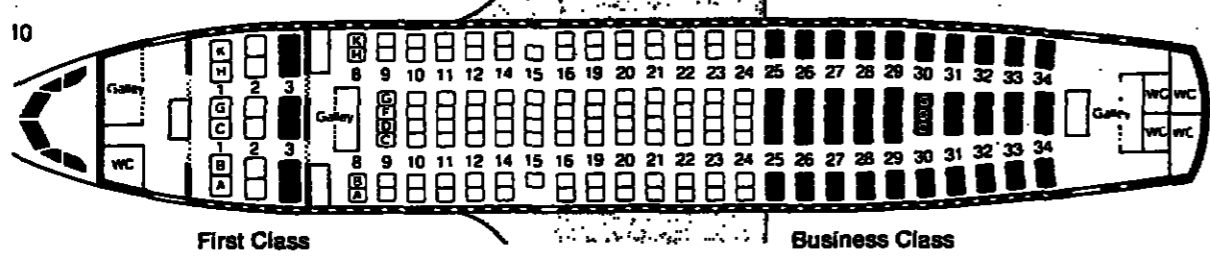
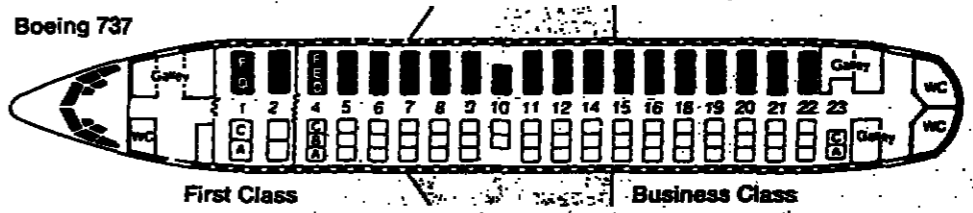
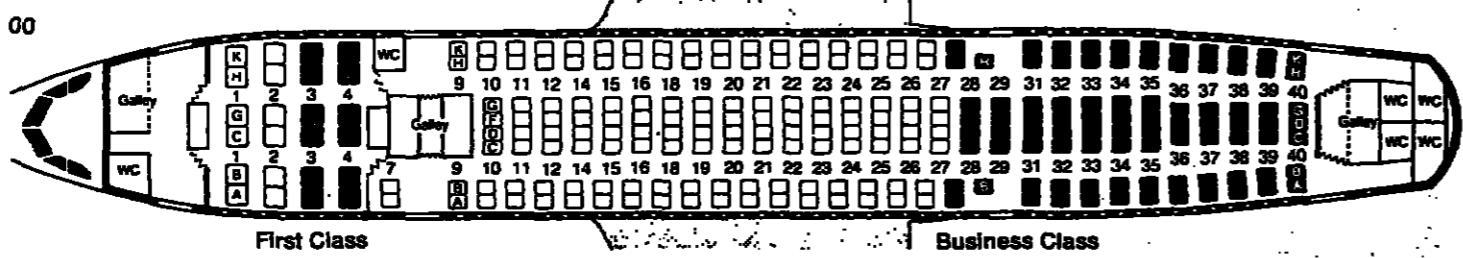
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# Lawyers will not dispute facts on plane shot down in Nicaragua

## Defence says surviving airman had minor part in Contra arms lift

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

Lawyers representing Mr Eugene Hasenfus, the American airman charged with terrorism in Nicaragua, said they would not dispute the facts of the case against him.

Mr Griffin Bell, a former US Attorney-General who is advising Nicaraguan lawyers on the American's behalf, said the defence would not challenge the fact that Mr Hasenfus had been running guns to the American-backed Contras when his plane was shot down on October 3.

"The main thing that you could say on his behalf is that he was not very high in the operation," said Mr Bell. "He is a little man and I would hope that the Sandinista Government would be kind to little people."

The defence would offer only mitigating evidence designed to prove that Mr Hasenfus had no political motive for his action and had simply been working for wages. Mr

Bell hoped that the Nicaraguan Government would be merciful.

The American faces up to 30 years in prison on charges of terrorism, violating national security and taking part in an illicit association with CIA agents.

The defence says Mr Hasenfus is simply an employee of a legally-constituted aviation company who had no direct knowledge of any CIA involvement in the Contra supply operation.

The prosecution has alleged that the company, Corporate Air Services of Pennsylvania, is a front for a CIA undercover operation aimed at overthrowing the Nicaraguan Government and that Mr Hasenfus knew this.

A Nicaraguan aviation expert, Señor Hugo Mendez, told the Revolutionary People's Tribunal, which is hearing the case, that flight logs recovered from the ill-fated cargo plane showed that it had changed its registration number four times and had been flying with no number at all when it was shot down.

Mr Bell said on Monday that he would present pay cheques from Corporate Air Services and affidavits from Mr Hasenfus and his wife, Sally, in an effort to demonstrate that Mr Hasenfus was not a CIA conspirator.

"I do not think he was a terrorist in the sense of terrorism as we know it," Mr Bell said. "He was not in a group going round blowing up buildings in London or Paris, or here either. He was helping the Contras by what he was doing. Now I thought the Contras were a revolutionary movement trying to overthrow the Government of Nicaragua. I did not know they were terrorists."

The former Attorney-General declined to offer an opinion as to what Mr Hasenfus might have been charged with in the United States had he been caught delivering guns to a group trying to overthrow the US Government.



Mr Eugene Hasenfus, the lone survivor of the cargo plane shot down over Nicaragua last month, looking downcast as he surveys arms allegedly recovered from the crashed plane.

# UN tells Reagan to end rebel aid

From Zoriana Pysarivsky, New York

The United States stood in near isolation over its Central America policy as the United Nations General Assembly adopted a measure urging the Reagan Administration to abandon its support of the Nicaraguan Contra rebels in keeping with a June directive issued by the World Court.

Despite intense American lobbying, half of its Nato allies broke with the US in the voting, in what was seen as a sign of growing concern that the stage is being set for a possible military confrontation following the Reagan Administration's decision to introduce advanced fighter planes into Central America in an attempt to modernize the Honduran Air Force.

The other half of the alliance, including Britain, abstained during the voting which saw 94 countries put their weight behind Nicaragua with only Israel and El Salvador coming out unequivocally on the side of the US.

The outcome proved that Nicaragua can still count on Western support, however lukewarm, to shield it diplomatically from the US.

But the Western Allies made clear that they were deeply disillusioned with the way the Sandinista Government conducts itself and they indicated that unless Nicaragua takes steps to restore democracy and to end a policy of interference in the affairs of its neighbours, it risks a diplomatic fall from grace.

Canada, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, which were among those voting for the Nicaraguan-inspired draft, said that the Sandinistas were partly to blame for the escalating tension in the region.

The vote in the Assembly followed an American veto in the Security Council last week on an almost identical resolution.

Señor Miguel D'Escoto Bruchman, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, accused the Reagan Administration of pressurizing and blackmailing those governments in the region that disapproved of US policy but now had no other choice.

It was imperative that the judgement handed down by the International Court of Justice be followed in letter and spirit, he said, adding that the American arguments and actions against the jurisdiction of the Court were a travesty of justice.

Mr Herbert Okuma, the American delegate, said that the resolution totally ignored the situation in Central America.

"It was a totally unacceptable portrayal of the reality of Central America," he said, claiming that Nicaragua's attempt at subversion in the region could not be met by the Administration with benign neglect.

# Central America braces itself for build-up of war

From Martha Hooley, San José, Costa Rica

The University of Costa Rica's respected weekly *Diplomatic and Military Sources* says in a two-page report that plans are set for a US invasion of Nicaragua; only the date is uncertain.

With the arrival this week of the first US shipments of military supplies under a new \$100 million (£70.9 million) Contra aid package, Central America's five pro-Western countries are braced for a sharp build-up in the Nicaraguan conflict which could, many here say, culminate in a direct US invasion.

Over the past months, leaders of Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama have, to varying degrees, made known their uneasiness about the impact of the Contra aid package and the official restoration of day-to-day CIA management of the five-year-old war against the leftist Sandinista Government.

They won a small victory by convincing the Reagan Administration to train several hundred Contra officers inside "the continental United States" and not in Central America as had been planned.

Several weeks ago, a furor erupted when a Panamanian legislator announced, apparently incorrectly, that clandestine training of Contra troops was already underway at the US Southern Command outside Panama City.

The US allies in Central America all face rising public fears that the widening Contra war will engulf the entire region.

In El Salvador, where the Government contends it does not provide support to the Contras, relations with the US have been strained after revelations by the captured US airman Eugene Hasenfus.

He said he was an adviser to the Salvadoran military and was part of an elaborate Contra supply network operating secretly out of a Salvadoran military airfield.

In Tegucigalpa, several hundred coffee growers chanting "Yankee garbage leave Honduras", demonstrated outside the National Assembly last week to demand the expulsion of Contra and US military forces.

They presented a petition claiming that 17,000 Contras from the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the largest Contra army which

operates out of Honduras, have annexed a portion of the border region there and established a "new Nicaragua".

The official response was that "not one square inch" of territory will be used by the Contras, but the Government has not taken concrete steps to expel them. Contra leaders say they plan to expand FDN forces to 20,000 over the coming months.

In addition, US and Honduran military sources say that several Honduran islands will be used for storing and shipping the Contra supplies and as staging areas for airborne attacks against Nicaraguan Pacific coast targets.

In contrast with Honduras, the Costa Rican Government has arrested and expelled armed Contras, seized caches of arms, tried captured mercenaries, and closed clandestine rebel airstrips and hospitals.

But Contra officials say "top priority" will be given to expanding their "southern front" which operates along the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border.

All these pro-Western countries walk a tightrope, not wanting to antagonize the US which is the greatest source of economic and military assistance. "We can stand up to the Reagan Administration only so long as they don't start cutting our aid package," said one high-ranking Costa Rican official.

Leaders of these five countries say they prefer a negotiated settlement to a wider war in Nicaragua. The Guatemalan Foreign Minister, Señor Mario Quirós, recently visited the other countries in an effort to revive the stale-mated Contadora peace talks by which Latin American countries have sought agreement on a written accord to end the Nicaraguan war.

But his tour was overshadowed by the successive visits of the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, and Assistant Secretary of State, Mr Elliot Abrams, and Mr Michael Aronson.

They are said to have promised their worried allies increased assistance in return for co-operation with the Contra cause. This includes \$300 million in aid to the Central American "democracies", emergency assistance to help El Salvador recover from its earthquake, and the sale, for the first time, of F-5E jet fighters to Honduras.

Nicaragua has responded to the new Contra aid by Pentagon officials say, doubling its inventory of Soviet-supplied aircraft including acquisition of six more Mi 25 helicopter gunships. An 30 reconnaissance aircraft, more than a dozen Mi 17 troop transport helicopters, and new cargo planes.

# First Lady's maid is cleared in arms case

From Mohsin AE, Washington

Mrs Nancy Reagan's White House maid, Mrs Anita Castelo, has been cleared of involvement in an alleged scheme to smuggle small-arms ammunition to Paraguay.

A federal prosecutor recommended at a court in Richmond, Virginia, on Monday that the charges against her be dismissed, because there was no criminal intent. The judge did so.

Mrs Reagan was said to be happy that Mrs Castelo, aged 45, was found innocent and she was welcome to return to her old job as personal maid and wardrobe assistant.

An attorney, Mr Henry Hudson, told the judge that new information from two Panamanian nationals indicted with Mrs Castelo had convinced him the White House employee had been an "unwitting participant" in the ammunition purchase.

The two men who were to stand trial with Mrs Castelo, a freighter captain, Julio Cesar Baez-Acosta, and a Richmond resident, Eugenio Silva, pleaded guilty on Monday to one count of attempting to export ammunition without a licence. They face sentencing in early December.



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# Sectarian riot deaths in Sind prompt calls for Junejo resignation

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Opposition leaders in Pakistan are demanding the resignation of the Prime Minister, Mr. Muhammad Khan Junejo, and his Government over disturbances in Sind, which have left at least 30 people dead.

Although Mr. Junejo alleges a "foreign hand" behind the riot, the Opposition blames the Government for failing to maintain calm in the country.

The Prime Minister did not identify which "foreign hand" he was referring to, but a right-wing member of the upper house of the Pakistan Parliament, Mr. Qazi Husain Ahmad, alleged that 20 Indian soldiers had been arrested recently in Sind.

However, a Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman denied any knowledge of Indian involvement in the troubles.

Several opposition leaders of liberal or left-wing leanings, alleged that Government agents were behind the sectarian riots in Quetta, Hyderabad and Karachi.

They accuse the Government of conducting a policy to further curb political opposition, with an ultimate aim of imposing authoritarian rule, so its close military and political associations with the United States on the pretext of the Afghanistan crisis.

The present spate of riots and disturbances are possibly the worst in Pakistan since the anti-Government disturbances in 1977, which ended in the military overthrow of the late Prime Minister, Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Mr. Junejo, who became Prime Minister early in 1985, after eight-and-a-half years of martial law, now faces the biggest challenge to his authority in his 20-month-old rule.

In addition to opposition over the Government's handling of the disturbances, his own ruling parliamentary party is showing signs of splits both at central Government level and out in the provinces.

Last week Mr. Junejo sacked his Commerce Minister, Mr. Mohyiddin Baluch, whom he held responsible for alleged corruption relating to cotton exports in the Export Promotion Bureau. He also replaced the Attorney-General.

Mr. Baluch, however, refused to quit the Government and has asked President Zia-ul-Haq to intercede on his behalf with Mr. Junejo.



Mr. Jimmy Carter, the former American President, and his wife Rosalynn at the Khyber Pass in Pakistan yesterday.

# US Navy returns to Chinese waters

From Robert Grieser, Peking

Three ships from the US Navy's Pacific Fleet will tie up at the east coast port of Qingdao today, the first time since 1949 that American warships have plied China's coastal waters.

The American Ambassador, Mr. Winston Lord, Admiral James Lyons, the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet and 20 other American officials will be on hand for the goodwill visit.

The visiting ships are USS Reeves, a Leahy-class guided-missile cruiser, USS Oldendorf, a Spruance-class destroyer, and USS Reuz, an Oliver-Hazard-Perry-class guided-missile frigate.

US officials have said that negotiations for the six-day visit were smoothed earlier this year by the visit of three Royal Navy warships to Shanghai. Last year an American Navy port call at Shanghai was postponed when a controversy arose over whether the ships were carrying nuclear weapons.

But the Chinese find it in their interests to be able to look over American and British naval hardware, particularly since they are anxious to build up their own Navy, which is the least developed of the People's Liberation Army services.

# Sydney judge hears ex-spy's demand for MI5 documents

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The British Government was handling its attempt to suppress a manuscript on MI5 operations like a card player who reshuffles the pack time and again in an attempt to produce a winning hand, the New South Wales Supreme Court was told yesterday.

It was puzzling why the Government had sought an injunction in the first place against the memoirs of Mr. Peter Wright, a former MI5 mole-hunter, when it had allowed publication of books by Chapman Pincher and Nigel West which covered similar ground.

Mr. Malcolm Turnbull, counsel for Mr. Wright and the Australian Heinemann Publishing Company, said.

Mr. Turnbull was arguing before Mr. Justice Powell that the Government should disclose documents relating to matters raised by the case, or alternatively have its pending application for an injunction dismissed.

The Government, in issuing a reply yesterday to the application, argued in a written submission which was not made public that most of the requested documents should not be made available.

Hearing of the injunction case is scheduled to start on November 17. Yesterday's proceedings were a continuation of legal manoeuvres and arguments.

Mr. Wright was the mole-hunter who interrogated Sir Roger Hollis, the former head of MI5, when he was under suspicion. He has gone on record as saying that Sir Roger was a Soviet agent.

Through counsel, Mr. Wright has requested briefings and other documents relating to Mrs. Thatcher's statement to the Commons in 1981 that Sir Roger was not a traitor.

Mr. Turnbull said yesterday he also sought documents concerning the publication of a Nigel West book, *A Matter of Trust, MI5 1945-77*, which he said had effectively been written by former officers of MI5, and books by Chapman Pincher.

If the Government was saying that former MI5 officers could not publish books, irrespective of whether their contents were already in the public domain or not, it was relevant for the defendants to know the circumstances in which other books had been allowed to go ahead, he said.

Much of yesterday's proceedings was taken up by legal debate and submissions, prompting Mr. Justice Powell to remark: "It's like the maze at Hampton Court." The hearing continues today.

# Clash toll in cities rises to 43

Karachi (Reuters) - At least 43 people have been killed in four days of rioting by rival ethnic groups in the Pakistani cities of Karachi and Hyderabad, hospital doctors said yesterday.

Police said they had reports of at least five bomb blasts in Karachi since rioting broke out last Friday. The unrest has rumbled on despite a curfew over most of the two cities enforced by troops.

Mohajirs, who make up almost one-third of the population of Karachi, have been campaigning for an end to what they say are discriminatory employment policies favouring other communities, especially the Punjabis and the Pathans.

The riots began when a Mohajir procession passed through a predominantly Pathan area on the outskirts of Karachi on the way to a rally in Hyderabad, 110 miles to the east.

# India protests over Karachi Awacs

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The winter session of the Indian Parliament opened yesterday with a storm of protests from members of the Upper House against the US decision to supply Awacs surveillance planes to neighbouring Pakistan.

The new Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. Natwar Singh, defending his Ministry for the first time as a politician - though he was previously a prominent diplomat - said that India does not "intend to sit quietly while Pakistan is given an additional technical superiority."

He said India's ambassador had been given instructions to express at the highest levels his country's concern "in the strongest possible terms."

But this did not satisfy members. Mr. Suresh Kalmady said: "The Government reply, I am sorry to say, is very mild." He added that unless they could do better, it would mark a "total failure of Indian diplomacy."

Despite a recent declaration that relations with America are improving, the Minister agreed that the equipping of Pakistan with Awacs would mean that "inevitably it will have an adverse effect on our relations with the United States."

Other members insisted that if Pakistan allowed US servicemen to fly Awacs patrols over its territory it would forfeit its non-aligned status and should quit the non-aligned movement.

While the discussion continued, news arrived of a meeting in Washington between Mr. P. K. Kanl, the Indian Ambassador to the United States, and Mr. Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary for Defence.

Mr. Weinberger had said that the US was convinced Pakistan required an airborne warning and control system to defend its border against Afghan intrusions: it did not imply any threat to India.

In the Lower House, the storm, when it occurred, was on a different topic - the failure of the Prime Minister's security which resulted in an attempt on his life at Rajghat early in October.

The opposition members forced an adjournment debate on the subject, and members drew attention to "serious lapses" which took place then.

Mr. Buta Singh, the Home Minister, admitted that the lapses were serious, but declined to give details of a fail-safe security system now being provided.

# Aquino 'on right track'

# Cardinal backs Manila talks with Communists

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Cardinal Jaime Sin, the Philippines' most influential church leader, yesterday said that President Aquino was "on the right track" in negotiating a peaceful end to the 17-year-long communist insurgency.

His endorsement came as a civilian-military panel refined the Government's response to the rebels' 100-day ceasefire offer. A key member of the panel said that the Government negotiating panel said he was optimistic of a nationwide truce by the end of the year.

"Yes, I'm optimistic... we will have a ceasefire, that's my feeling," Mr. Ramon Mitra said late on Monday after a long National Security Council meeting in which Mrs. Aquino described the unprecedented rebel peace offer as a "step forward".

Government negotiators at a secret meeting "somewhere in Manila" today will present the Government's official response to the rebel's offer on Saturday to begin a 100-day ceasefire from December 10 - the International Human Rights Day.

"We can't just kill communists," Cardinal Sin, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila, said at his monthly news conference at his sprawling suburban villa.

Asked why the 23,000-strong New People's Army - born during the 20-year Marcos regime - continues to fight eight months after Mrs. Aquino took power, the outspoken churchman countered the insurgency to a severed lizard's tail which continues to wriggle until it finally lies still.

Cardinal Sin described the new draft constitution as "perfect and beautiful" and said church workers would actively endorse its ratification in a plebiscite on February 2. Local government and congressional elections will follow in May.

"I think the present Government is (heading) in the right direction and... it won't be long when, after the elections and the ratification of the constitution, the people will realize that we are on the right track," he said.

Rebel deaths: At least 58 communist rebels have died in a five-day military offensive against a guerrilla base driven from its remote jungle camp by army troops backed by helicopters, gunships and fighter planes, the state-run Philippine News Agency (PNA) has reported.

The agency said 30 rebels of the New People's Army were killed on Monday, including 17 guerrillas holed up inside a mountain tunnel which collapsed during an airstrike.

Soldiers on a routine patrol in the hinterland of Lanao del Norte Province stumbled on a rebel camp on Friday.

In the first exchange of fire two soldiers died before three helicopter gunships and a fighter plane strafed the camp killing 20 rebels and forcing the others to flee, PNA said.

At least 500 residents have fled the fighting, among the most intense since President Aquino took power.



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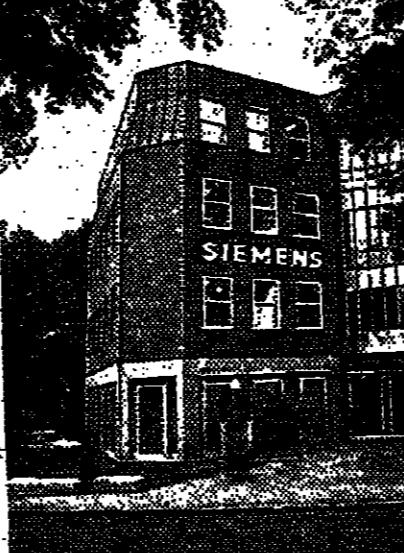
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Weapons shipments to Iran

Secret deals hold the key to release of Beirut captives

From Robert Fisk, Nicosia

A power struggle within the Iranian leadership, a series of secret meetings between American and Iranian officials in Tehran and negotiations with Kuwait to procure the sale of 17 men convicted of bombing the French and US embassies there lie behind a package deal for the release of the American hostages in Lebanon.

The Americans have used Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, to capture public attention in the hostage deal by flying between Lebanon, Cyprus and Germany - but the real concessions made by the US have little to do with Mr Waite.

They are said by reliable sources in Beirut and Nicosia to have involved not only US talks in Tehran but the transport of arms and military spare parts to Iran from air bases in Israel and Spain.

Second, and far more importantly, Mr Hashemi is the main intermediary between the US and Iran.

Syrian airline disowns Hindawi and terror

From Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent, Montreux

Syrian Arab Airlines has launched a propaganda campaign to improve its image - tarnished in the wake of the Hindawi terrorism trial.

"We never have in the past and never will in the future become involved in any form of terrorism. We were the victim of a plot to try to blacken the name of Syria."

Mr Hashemi is the brother of the brother-in-law of Ayatollah Hussein-ali Montazeri, the designated successor to Ayatollah Khomeini.

This may occur within the next five days, before the European Community meets to consider whether British evidence of Syrian involvement in bombings justifies European action against Syria.



Dr David Jacobsen, the American hostage freed on Monday, embracing his daughter, Mrs Diana Duggan, on the balcony of the US Air Force hospital in Wiesbaden yesterday.

Freed hostage greets family

From John England, Wiesbaden

Dr Jacobsen, the American hostage in Lebanon who was freed on Monday after 17 months in Muslim captivity, was reunited with his family in West Germany yesterday.

His two sons and daughter, and their spouses, all from California, flew into Frankfurt airport to be met by Mr Terry Waite, the man who won Dr Jacobsen's release.

The family group was then driven to the US Air Force hospital in nearby Wiesbaden where he is still having medical and psychological tests.

Builders blamed for Italian dam burst

Trento (Reuters) - Experts appointed by a court investigating the cause of a dam burst in northern Italy, in which 268 people died, yesterday blamed the disaster on faulty construction and bad maintenance.

£1m claim on jet blast

New York (Reuters) - A businessman is claiming more than £1 million from TWA, claiming damages when a jet exploded in April on a jet en route to Athens, sucking out four passengers who were sitting in front of him.

Murder charge

Lagos (AFP) - The lawyer for Newswatch magazine, whose chief executive and editor-in-chief, Mr Dele Giwa, was killed by a parcel bomb two weeks ago, has filed private murder charges against the heads of Nigeria's military and civilian intelligence services.

Tahiti protest

Papeete (AFP) - Hundreds of demonstrators protesting at France's nuclear testing programme took to the streets of Tahiti in a torchlight protest after the 26th conference of the South Pacific Commission opened here.

Family killed

Deventer - (AP) - A Dutch couple and their baby died when an express train hit their car at a crossing in this eastern Dutch city.

Wall arrest

West Berlin (Reuters) - East German border guards seized a man technically inside East German territory who was painting a long white line on the Western side of the Berlin Wall.

Dog-think

Viborg (Reuters) - Postmen in this west Danish town are to attend a course on dog psychology because about 65 have been bitten by dogs so far this year.

Plea rejected

Belgrade (Reuters) - The Yugoslav Federal Court has turned down an appeal on behalf of a convicted Second World War criminal, Andrija Artukovic, who was sentenced to death in May.

Record crop

Delhi (AFP) - The Punjab expects a bumper food crop this year, and to retain its place as India's grain bowl.

The world-wide plight of conscientious objectors

War on conscription spreads as the penalties grow harsher

"I am a Christian, brought up in the beliefs of the Catholic Church. I am committed to peace. I believe that all armies legitimise the use of violence."

ENTERTAINMENTS

A large grid of entertainment listings including Concerts, Opera & Ballet, Theatres, and Cinemas. Listings include venues like Barbican Hall, Royal Festival Hall, and various theatres across London and the South of England, with details on plays, musicals, and performances.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: "John Lee 150"

Handwritten note: The Arts

THE ARTS

A living in death

Consider this in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, there lives a man who has killed four people in as many years.

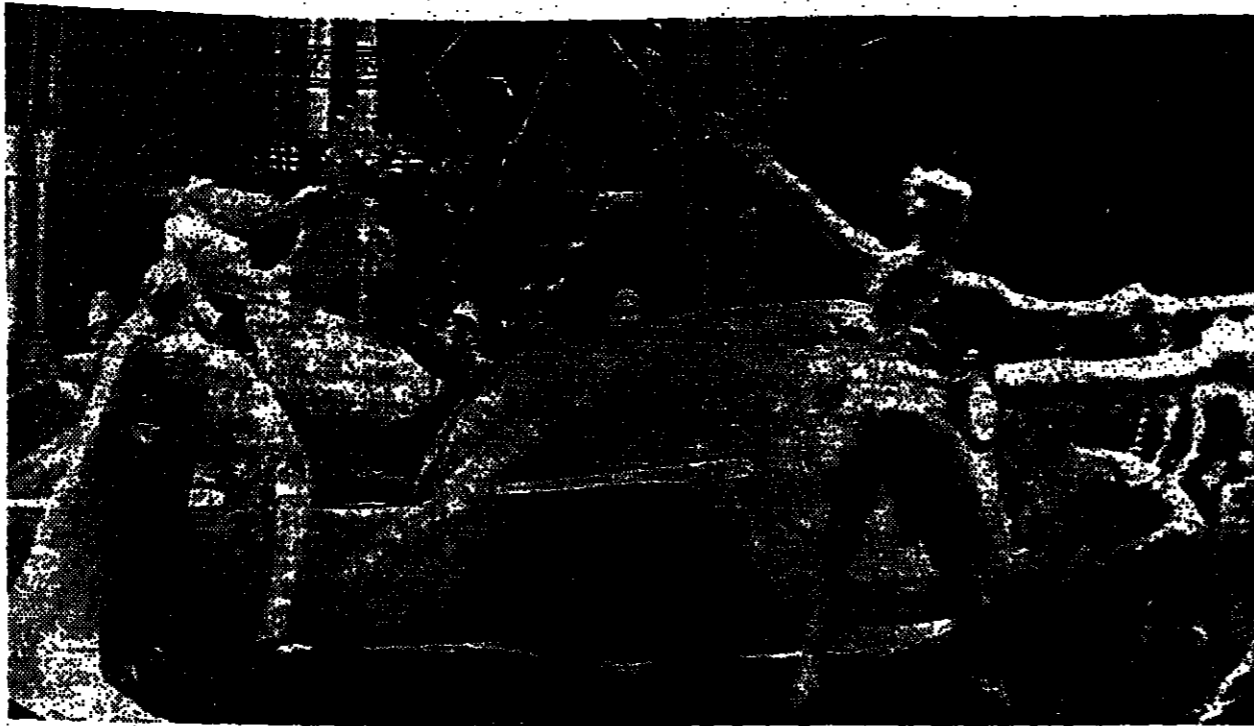
The killer's name is Sergeant Dye (which he cannot, of course, pronounce).

In the studiously meticulous first Tuesday (TV), the fall sergeant displayed the grisly hardware of his occasional rages: the foam-lined restraining straps; the Fickelhaube helmet; the velcro-tied execution shirt; excelsior buttons for the stomach; a doctor would burn his fingers.

TELEVISION

The electric chair is a singularly barbaric mode of execution, but it might be thought no more cruel and painful a punishment than being a prisoner on Death Row, often for years on end, while the "blue process" of speaks lingers on outside.

Martin Cropper



Cinderella (Sylvie Guillem) makes her way to the studio by open-topped car

John Percival reports on Nureyev's new Cinderella in Paris

All the fun of a musical

The intention of Rudolf Nureyev and his designer, Petrika Ionesco, to set their production of the Prokofiev Cinderella in the Hollywood of the Thirties sounded, before the event, capricious and even silly.

When it comes to the big set pieces, nobody would expect Nureyev to outshine Ashton in the composition of the duets - although as indicated he scores by allowing himself more scope.

male dancers at his disposal, and more of them, than Ashton ever enjoyed. Also, like Ashton, Nureyev knows how to use a big corps de ballet, and the ensembles again benefit from the exceptional quality of the Paris company all through its ranks.

Nureyev also introduces a glamorous stepmother (a deliciously wicked drag performance by Georges Fleta, pointe shoes and all) to complement the antics of Cinderella's stepsisters, played with relish by two of the company's most gifted ballerinas.

There will be two or three casts in all the main roles. Sylvie Guillem, one of the youngest ballerinas, was the choice for Cinderella on the opening night.

Nureyev has in fact followed Prokofiev's wish to concentrate above all on the love-story, and to that end he devotes the whole of the last scene (once Cinderella has signed her contract) to giving her and her heart-throb leading man another duet.

Charles Jude, happily right back on form after recent injuries, was the fit-star gambolling smoothly through solos with steps quite as blood-curdingly difficult as anything the Bolshoi showed, but done here with a throwaway grace.

When it comes to the big set pieces, nobody would expect Nureyev to outshine Ashton in the composition of the duets - although as indicated he scores by allowing himself more scope.

The great virtue of this Cinderella, in addition to its wit and its spectacle, is that it rescues the ballet from the limbo of Christmas pantomime and turns it into a modern fairy-tale for all seasons.

The production is in repertory until November 12, with a further run scheduled for next June and July.

THEATRE

A Dream Play King's Head

just "do" A Dream Play, it demands a creative director. At the King's Head, it is directed by the Swedish-born Karin Micallef as the first of a series of European productions by the Tell-Tale Theatre Company.

Dirty Dishes Boulevard

Wedged between the mercenary fables of Walker's Court, Soba, and sharing amenities with the Raymond Revuebar, this brave newish venue offers better value for money than many a "legitimate" West End theatre.

Young Writers Theatre Upstairs

Hopes for the future of dramatic writing in a video age are given a boost by this year's Royal Court Young Writers' Festival. Three authors, ranging in age between 16 and 20, three different concerns, and widely differing styles; achievements in each that focus on contemporary preoccupations and crimes.

Irving Wardle

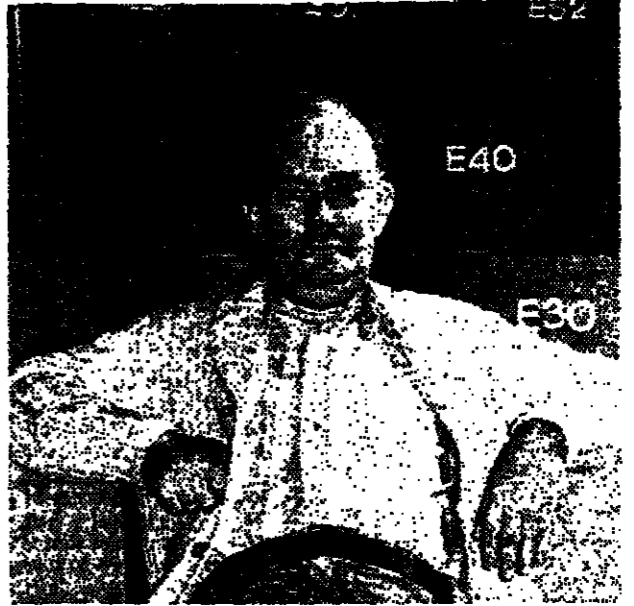
I am sorry to greet an adventurous group in these terms. The accompanying Swedish dinner is well up to the standards of the house.

GOOD CREDENTIALS invites you to a behind the scenes dinner chat with BRIAN SAVEGAR ART DIRECTOR on award winning ROOM WITH A VIEW

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The people to watch

Tons of Money, which opens at the Lyttelton tomorrow, surprisingly marks the London debut of Alan Ayckbourn (right) in directing work other than his own: interview by Andrew Hislop



Alan Ayckbourn is a great audience-watcher during the performances of his plays. This celebrated master-craftsman, ever inventive of ingenious theatrical techniques to explore the comic middle and suppressed horror of middle-class life, is never short of people to look at.

His own play is the result of his obsession with the problems of mastering the vast Olivier - "the most infuriating theatre and the most interesting".

For well over 20 years, however, Ayckbourn's critical gaze at his public - mainly adoring and guffawing, but also occasionally puzzled and disturbed - has been predominantly in Scarborough.

He has chosen the programme not only to offer a full range of drama from the tragic to the lightest comedy, with his own play in the middle, but also to fit the theatres. He used to think good drama could be done anywhere, but now believes "the right space is essential for the right play".

the theatre, including acting. He once was even directed by Peter as Stanley in The Birthday Party, fresh from its famous mating by the London critics.

Ayckbourn comes to the National at the summit of his career. The security of his Scarborough nest has enabled him to continue his work remarkably unaffected by those who have overpraised him, comparing him to Shakespeare, and those who have unjustly reviled him, regarding him as a vacuous, right-wing boulevardier.

He does, however, reveal a comforting vulnerability about his move to the National. Though Sir Peter Hall was prepared to allow him, as is his wont at Scarborough, to write A Small Family Business at the last moment, he produced it a year in advance.

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15

Married to affairs of state

The popular vision of the life of a diplomat's wife is of tall drinks on sunny verandas while the men get on with the real work. But, as a conference in London tomorrow will make clear, many sacrifice a great deal, including their own careers. Lindsay Knight reports

Whatever complaints diplomats' wives may have about their lot, they are unfailingly loyal to their husbands. "We are the most loyal group of wives," said Gay Murphy, chairman of the Diplomatic Service Wives Association.

But this loyalty is sorely tested by husbands and the Foreign Office, especially when couples are posted abroad. A move can mean a major disruption, if not a total break, in the wife's career, and she can spend so much time on embassy work that she may feel like an unpaid FCO employee.

While her loyalty may be refreshingly old-fashioned, her ambitions are not. Diplomatic wives are keen to dismiss the image, at least 20 years out of date, of the diplomat's wife swanning around the world, being looked after by armies of servants and having little to do but pose decoratively on verandas sipping gin and tonics. They have, for example, an impressive range of qualifications and work experience, as a recent DSWA questionnaire shows. Many are graduates or trained teachers, and their jobs vary from nursing to accountancy, the law to word processing, cartography to electronic engineering, metallurgy to architecture.

In 1986, most of these wives (about 2,600 throughout the world) would like to work in their own right, whatever the level of their ambitions or career. They are no longer happy with the assumption that their role is to support their spouses (and implicitly the FCO). Ways of tackling the work problem — shared by diplomat's wives from every country, not just the UK — will be high on the agenda at this week's conference of the European Community Diplomatic Spouses' Associations, hosted by the UK's DSWA in London.

In recent years, considerable effort and often ingenuity have been exercised to arrange joint postings when two FCO people marry. The problems of wives with careers outside the FCO are less soluble.

One young woman spoke up on the understanding that she could remain anonymous (even to her husband): "In theory you're free to say what you think but in practice you do worry that pressure might be put on your husband to shut you up."

She is now back in London after three years abroad. "After university and then beginning to establish myself in a career in advertising, it was terrible at the age of 24 to go abroad and have to depend on my

husband for everything because I couldn't work there. When I came back, I'd obviously missed out on promotions. I keep very quiet at work about my husband's job because they think I'll be going abroad again."

For this woman, the frustrations of not working were aggravated by the expectations of her as a diplomatic wife — not only the voluntary work, but also the coffee mornings and wives' meetings, "I stopped going to these soon after we arrived and then a couple of wives came round to see me, to ask why. 'You'll get a lot of stick if you don't come,' they warned. But I didn't, even though I know my husband would have preferred me to, and I know I wasn't the most popular wife in the embassy."

Clare Oliver is a social worker who accompanied her husband to Mexico when he was seconded from his company to the Foreign Office for three years. "The psychological stresses are hard for many wives," she says. "Because they can't do their own thing, women lose their sense of identity and receive their status from their husbands. Rank is very prevalent so you become the Second Secretary's Wife, for example, and there is still a big divide between junior and senior wives."

There are considerable differences between going abroad with a company and with the Foreign Office, especially when couples are posted abroad. "With a company, there is more choice about the house you live in or how you live. The FCO allows you a house according to your status, and it's assumed you will do a lot of entertaining for your husband. Some wives I know in Mexico would cook dinner, serve the drinks and then disappear. I refused to allow my home to be used as a restaurant like that, but I certainly didn't have any choice about who came into my home."

Of course, many wives enjoy their life abroad but some, particularly the younger women, doubt if the benefits outweigh the disadvantages. Some are already choosing to stay in the UK when their husbands are posted abroad in order to continue their careers. The FCO admits that it is losing "good men" in their 30s because their wives put pressure on them to leave the FCO for a more settled existence.

The FCO recognizes both a wife's contribution and her dilemma. A spokesman said: "Frankly, if a wife chooses to be involved in the embassy work, it's an unpaid benefit for us."



In Her Majesty's service: Pamela Gordon and children (from left) Francesca, 6, Adam, 1, and Alexandra, 4

Pamela Gordon insists that she has no regrets about giving up her own diplomatic career to marry a diplomat. But it is clear that she has not always been so resigned to the life of a diplomatic wife.

"I was very slow in coming to terms with the situation. It was probably worse for me than other working wives because I had worked for the Foreign Office. My husband would come home every evening and I'd feel so upset that I wouldn't want to listen to his stories about work."

Because of her Cuban posting, Pamela spoke fluent Spanish, so she contacted several British companies in Santiago. "I was thrilled when one of them offered me a job, and I rushed along to the embassy to tell my husband, only to discover that the Chileans had stopped giving diplomatic spouses work permits. I was only 27 and I wasn't allowed to work. It was tragic at the time."

Pamela remembers their first day in Santiago: "Our very kind predecessor and his wife showed us round the house and made us welcome. Then he said to Robert, 'Now I'll take you home to the embassy and show you the offices.' "I got up to go too, then realized I didn't work there. The wife showed me the local shops. It was one of the worst moments. "I was very slow in coming to terms with the situation. It was probably worse for me than other working wives because I had worked for the Foreign Office. My husband would come home every evening and I'd feel so upset that I wouldn't want to listen to his stories about work."

"I did feel that I wanted to do the voluntary work. I was interested in so I offered to help out in a soup kitchen run by the church. But someone said 'You should stick to what you do. Diplomatic wives are good at fund raising.'"

"That was another shock to the system. I'd only been a diplomat's wife for three weeks."

After four years, which she emphasizes were often "great fun", she and her husband returned to London. She could then have gone back into the Foreign Office, but asked for part-time work because of her small children. There was some available, though basically, several years later, the FCO is now encouraging part-time work and job-sharing.

"I then had to resign and I remember thinking that if I'd trained as a solicitor, like so many of my friends, part-time work would have been no problem."

Pamela resigned and has now returned as an EFL (English as a Foreign Language) teacher, a useful qualification for diplomatic wives working abroad. "In my position you have to be very flexible and it's a matter of having a job rather than a career."

And the future? The Gordons, now numbering five after the birth of a son in 1985, will be going abroad again next year and Pamela accepts that she may have to retrain again. As for the general problem of working wives, of which she is aware through her work on the DSWA committee, "I really don't know what the solution is. My husband has certainly been very understanding. He's had a lot to put up with."

It's a matter of having a job rather than a career

"I did feel that I wanted to do the voluntary work. I was interested in so I offered to help out in a soup kitchen run by the church. But someone said 'You should stick to what you do. Diplomatic wives are good at fund raising.'"

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Teaching children to complain

Has Esther Rantzen spread her safety net for sexually abused children too wide?

At first I thought it was a reflection of my own dyspeptic nature. But as the evening wore on I became convinced that I was not the only person feeling profoundly uncomfortable with the BBC's new Children — the free phone-in service for abused children. Esther Rantzen was sufficed with caring, all right, but every time she explained her new role as the Beeb's Supermam, I felt uneasy. There's a problem here, I said to myself.

It is not that I have any measure of understanding or sympathy for child abusers. Hanging's too good for them. I have always thought, as she calls it, the ChildLine phones, I could only wonder admiringly at Esther Rantzen's achievement. Singlehandedly, she has thrust child abuse into the popular consciousness. Still, the doubts began to nag.

Child abuse has always been a pretty clear cut business to me involving some thought of physical or sexual attack. Or extreme negligence. But Esther Rantzen had a broader view. Even the interviewer on Newsround seemed a little taken aback.

"Esther," he asked, "what range of problems are you dealing with?" "Well, anything that troubles a child really," Esther replied. That turned out to include little girls afraid of the dark and little boys with school nerves. "I think," Esther continued, "that child abuse is anything that puts a child through pain, makes them feel uncomfortable and unhappy."

Under normal circumstances, of course, Esther Rantzen's views would concern only those close to the object of her compassion. But with the power of the state at her finger-tips, Esther Rantzen's views take on a different complexion. A child's call to her Childline has consequences. It can result in state interference in the family, whether by drastic measures involving the police or by chatty social workers passing judgement on mother's sanctions for poor homework. None of us would interfere when it comes to real child abuse, but why should beleaguered parents now be under siege for a whole range of private parenting concerns?

Rantzen next turned her attention to the courtroom. What seemed to worry her here was the difficulty of getting a conviction for child abuse. She advocated certain changes to set this right, such as the new Criminal Justice Bill. That Bill proposes putting children in separate rooms with a video link to the courtroom so that they may give evidence without having

the "trauma" of facing the accused assailant in court. Dangerous nonsense. I thought, the person accused of the crime is presumed to be innocent. By separating the child from the accused, you imply that the defendant did something very desperate and you reverse the onus of guilt, psychologically speaking. That may well improve the conviction rate — at the price of setting our traditional notion of justice on its head.

I understood the kind of world Esther Rantzen inhabited when the programme took us to a school, to show us, approvingly, the New Child. A group of them were singing a song with the chorus "My body's nobody's body but mine/you run your own body, let me run mine." I thought it was curious that we needed such a song in this age which rhapsodizes over people's rights to do with their bodies as they will regardless of the harm they cause others. Still, I let that pass.

Then an American woman named Michelle Elliot began asking the children what they would do about a bully who demanded their lunch. A sweet-faced girl said she would punch one in the face, but apparently this was the wrong answer. Another said she would run away and then tell. A lot of the children emphasized the need to tell with a very unchildlike self-satisfaction. "Excellent," said Michelle Elliot.

Well, I didn't think it was excellent at all. It reminded me of the spirit of the old scientific socialist society in which films were made about brave children who stood up and told on their parents. This, I thought, is how you train a population to complain, denounce and be proud of their dependency. You plant the idea in people from early childhood that if they are afraid in the dark, or have a problem with a bully, they just telephone the state. Is there anything more destructive to the family as a unit or in its relationship to the community as having outsiders brought in willy nilly to solve matters where no laws are broken?

You see, Esther, I want to help that bruised child as much as you. It's your remedy that I fear.

Barbara Amiel  
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Esther Rantzen: a broader view

STACK units from £9. New stack of freestanding shelf units. Plus storage from cubes to wardrobes, wall shelving, trees and more. Mail order catalogue (or visit us) CubeStore 59 Pemberton Rd W9 0T-804 8076 (also Grix & Notts)

FRIDAY Britain's first 'adopt by video' scheme

BRIEFLY A round-up of news, views and information

Chewing the fat. "Hiya Chubbychops" is hardly the kind of greeting to lighten a wife's spirits.

Quote me... "I'd rather be with children than spend my time with politicians," Giyerys Kinnock.

TALKBACK From J.T. Masefield, Sunningdale, Berkshire. There may be some hope for at least some young people like Michelle (Mad, sad, or simply a bad case) of October 23.

GIVEN THE CHOICE: GENTLEMEN PREFER BARKERS. Be warned, our latest Barker catalogue could spoil you for choice.

AUTUMN PROMOTION NOW ON. ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS DELIVERY. TRADITIONAL UPHOLSTERY DIRECT FROM THE MAKER. SPECIAL PRICES ON PROMOTIONAL FABRICS. MULTIYORK Handmade in Suffolk.

Sound advice. Premenstrual Syndrome has been known to drive otherwise sane women to distraction. It not unlike them, and a high proportion experience at least some symptoms.

Pigeonholed. The Pocket Guide to Men (Chalk & Cheese, £2.50) is good, not-always-clean fun full of the wit and wisdom exchanged by women "when," according to its authors, "there aren't any men around".

Wagon trail. Equality has its downside — including a soaring alcoholism rate among women. Keith McNeill's How to Stay No to Alcohol (Sheldon Press, £2.50) is an impressively succinct detailing of practical methods of giving up or reducing your alcohol intake.

From Mrs M.E. Bulford, Shepperton, Middlesex. I would be interested to know if Michelle has ever been considered allergic to either food or chemicals.

Barker shoes advertisement featuring various styles of shoes and a form to request a catalogue.

says her not racist









السنة الحادية عشر

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS

ANNEBRIAL - On November 4th, at... Mrs. M. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

BECKER - On October 20th, at home... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

BRANT - On October 1st, at University College Hospital... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

COOPER - On October 1st, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

DEATHS

BLONSTEN - On October 31st, at home... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

ANNIVERSARIES

POLYANNIS - On Nov 5, 1941... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

MARLEYBENTLEY - On November 5, 1906... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

MARRIAGES

CHAMBERLAIN - On Friday October 31st, 1986... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

COLLIERSON - On 23rd November 1986... Mrs. J. ... and Mr. J. ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LATIN MASS SOCIETY - Latin Mass Society... 3 Cook Street, London W1X 1HA

FOR SALE - YOU'LL BE FLOORED BY OUR PRICES AT RESISTA CARPETS

FLATSHARE - THREE PROFESSIONAL, tidy/pleasant, shared...

OVERSEAS TRAVEL - IT'S ALL AT TRAVELERS

OVERSEAS TRAVEL - TRAVEL WORLDWIDE

UP UP & AWAY - Flamingo Travel

WINTER SPORTS - SKI WHIZZ

LOWEST FARES - Air tickets

SUN & SAND - Sun holidays

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Various notices and announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Various notices and announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Various notices and announcements

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Memorial service

Sir Spencer Le Marchant - The Prime Minister was represented by Mr John Watkinson...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Various notices and announcements

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AMERICAN BUYERS SEEK - Antiques and Modern Interiors... ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES - Antiques Fairs... 12th & 26th NOVEMBER



Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1294.3 (+0.2) FT-SE 100 1637.7 (-1.50) Bargains 32686 (36712) USM (Datastream) 126.98 (+0.66) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4145 (+0.0035) W German mark 2.9096 (-0.0013) Trade-weighted 68.6 (-0.1)

Montagu defection

Barclays de Zoete Wedd has added to its capital markets capability by recruiting a Eurobond trading team from Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank. It is the first mass defection of a dealing team to a different bank since Big Bang a week ago.

Bigger stake

American Trust has agreed to subscribe for up to 2.67 million new Edinburgh Oil and Gas shares at 30p a share to raise £730,000 in a move that could increase its holding from 26.5 per cent to a maximum of 40.8 per cent.

Profits trebled

Pretax profits at GT Management almost trebled in the six months to September 30. They rose from £2.2 million to £6 million on turnover up 65 per cent at £18.8 million.

IBA approval

The Independent Broadcasting Authority has approved plans by Anglia Television to give voting rights to its A shares, which are traded on the Stock Exchange, and to compensate B and C shareholders with a four-for-three bonus issue.

Ban on coins

British imports of South African gold coins are now banned irrespective of their country of origin. Previously only direct imports from South Africa were banned.

Arlington link

Arlington Securities plans to partner Teeland Development in a £25 million town-centre development for Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

First Interstate ponders new BankAmerica bid

First Interstate Bancorp, whose \$3.4 billion (£2.4 billion) bid for BankAmerica Corporation was rejected, said yesterday it was reviewing its options to see if further overtures were warranted.

BCal sells last of its package tour hotels

British Caledonian yesterday completed its withdrawal from the package holiday business with the sale of hotel interests in the Balearics and Canary Islands.

Fed unlikely to cut rates as economy shows revival signs

The powerful open market committee of the US Federal Reserve Board meets today to chart a new monetary course following an historic agreement with Japan which gives the central bank more flexibility to lower interest rates.

Official reserves in biggest fall since 1982

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's official reserves fell by an underlying \$668 million (£474 million) last month, the biggest monthly drop for four years. The large fall in the reserves was due to Bank of England support for the pound in the foreign exchange markets.



Beazer flop highlights City's dim view of rights issues

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Brian Beazer, chairman of CH Beazer, the fast-growing Bath housebuilding group, admitted last night that the company's rapid expansion may have come to a halt after disappointment over his latest City fund-raising exercise.

BCal sells last of its package tour hotels

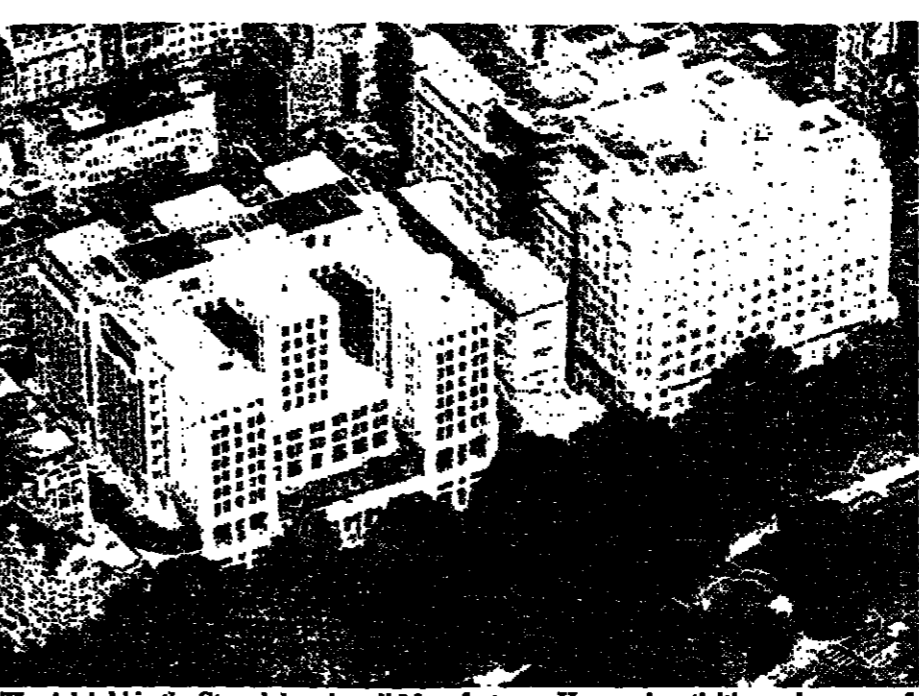
By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

British Caledonian yesterday completed its withdrawal from the package holiday business with the sale of hotel interests in the Balearics and Canary Islands.

Fed unlikely to cut rates as economy shows revival signs

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The powerful open market committee of the US Federal Reserve Board meets today to chart a new monetary course following an historic agreement with Japan which gives the central bank more flexibility to lower interest rates.



The Adelphi in the Strand: housing all Manufacturers Hanover's activities under one roof.

Maxwell stake surprise

By Alison Eadie

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of the Daily Mirror, yesterday enhanced his reputation for springing surprises, when he announced he had bought more McCorquodale shares at prices up to 6p above the management buyout terms.

Albert Fisher in £44.7m buy

By Lawrence Lever

Albert Fisher Group, the fast-growing food distribution and service company, went back on the acquisition trail yesterday with purchases worth £44.7 million.

Albert Fisher in £44.7m buy

By Lawrence Lever

Albert Fisher Group, the fast-growing food distribution and service company, went back on the acquisition trail yesterday with purchases worth £44.7 million.



Tony Millar: soaring stock market value.

Hunting makes £2m provision against stake

By Lawrence Lever

Hunting Group is to make a £2 million provision against its 47 per cent stake in the troubled New England Properties.

US bank leaves City after 50 years

By Judith Huntley Commercial Property Correspondent

Manufacturers Hanover Corporation, the American bank housed in Princes Street, City of London, for 50 years, is moving into 300,000 sq ft of space at the Adelphi in the Strand.

The bank purchased the Adelphi lease from the Phillips Petroleum Company UK for £90 million. It has the option to buy the freehold from the Prudential Assurance Company.

The move away from the Square Mile allows the bank to concentrate all its activities, including investment banking, under one roof, in addition to expanding its international activities from London.

Manufacturers intends to open 150 dealing positions in the Adelphi and foreign exchange and Eurobond dealers will work on a new trading floor. The bank may also venture into gilt trading.

But it says it has no intention of becoming a market-maker yet. So far Manufacturers has not bought a broking or jobbing house, believing the costs did not justify the returns. But the bank says it has not ruled out the possibility.

The leases on Manufacturers' existing offices, except 7 Princes Street, which is near the Bank of England, will be sold. The bank says it will keep a City office, possibly retaining space in its existing headquarters.

Phillips Petroleum UK is moving to 120,000 sq ft of offices in two buildings in Woking, Surrey. It is paying rents of £14 a sq ft and £12 a sq ft with a rent-free period.

Vital information for anyone investing in stocks and shares after 27th October 1986.

Discount Brokers International (UK) Ltd. advertisement detailing services, commission rates, and contact information.

MARKET SUMMARY table with columns for Stock Markets, Interest Rates, and Currencies.

STOCK MARKETS table listing various indices and their values.

INTEREST RATES table showing rates for various financial instruments.

CURRENCIES table listing exchange rates for different currencies.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES table showing price movements for various commodities.

GOLD table showing gold prices and related market data.

NORTH SEA OIL table showing oil prices and market trends.

Table with financial data, possibly related to the gold or oil markets.

# Hong Kong listings lowest since 1972

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

Hong Kong has the lowest number of listed companies since 1972, despite the recent runaway success of its stock market.

There are only 255 listed companies, compared with 778 a year ago and a record 313 at the end of June 1973, according to figures released by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

In the last five years, companies have been listed at a rate of only six a year. So far this year there have only been three new listings.

The Hang Seng Index has soared by more than 40 per cent to 2,313 since March. Money from foreign and local investors has been pouring into the big names on the exchange - the top 20 firms account for 80 per cent of the market's capitalization.

There are two principal reasons for the dramatic fall in the number of listed companies. Magnates such as Sir Yue Kong Pao and Mr Li Ka-shing have been expanding and taking over a succession of local companies.

Mr Li's Hutchison Whampoa empire is the third largest company on the exchange (market capitalization HK\$22.5 billion or £2.04 billion) while his Cheung Kong trading group ranks eleventh with a market capitalization of HK\$12.6 billion.

But the market is still dominated by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HK\$30.8 billion).

While bigger companies have been swallowing up the smaller fish, some businesses wanting a listing have been simply reversing into dormant shells.

# First for Mrs Fields

Mrs Fields, the American cookies company, and Hong Kong's largest property group will open the first of a chain of cookies and ice cream shops in the Crown Colony next month.

Mrs Fields and Hong Kong Land hope that the Cookies 'n Cream shop will launch a chain that will stretch into China. This is the first time Mrs Fields has gone into a joint venture.

Last year Mrs Fields - which has more than 380 outlets in the United States, Britain, Japan and Australia - reported profits of \$72 million (£31 million).

The company will supply its soft, chewy cookies and Hong Kong Land will provide ice creams through its Dairy Farm subsidiary.

Together they have set up a new firm, Mrs Fields Cookies Far East Ltd, with an initial issued share capital of HK\$3 million (£272,727).

# Regan rules himself out of running for Fed job

From Bailey Morris Washington

Mr Donald Regan, the White House chief of staff, has firmly rejected the possibility of succeeding Mr Paul Volcker as chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board.

In a broadcast interview in which he was asked about repeated rumours that he is the top candidate to replace Mr Volcker, Mr Regan said he was not interested.

"I think that would be, with all due respect to Paul Volcker and my associates there on the board, a step backward for me," Mr Regan said.

He did revive speculation, however, that Mr Volcker is not likely to be reappointed.



Mr Donald Regan: 'a backward step for me' when his term expires next August.

Asked about the chances of another Volcker term, Mr Regan said: "It is too early to tell."

Following the appointment by President Reagan of five of

the seven board members, reports have circulated widely that Mr Volcker would either resign early or refuse to take a third term if one was offered.

Names reportedly under consideration by the Administration to succeed him are the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, Mr Manuel Johnson, vice chairman of the board, and Mr Regan, who has been a strong critic of Mr Volcker.

In addition, the Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, has been considered a possible replacement but his associates say it is unlikely he would accept such an offer, choosing instead to return to politics in the campaign of Vice President George Bush for the presidency in 1988.

### APPOINTMENTS

American Chamber of Commerce (UK): Mrs Jean Wadlow, Mr Charles McVeigh III, and Mr Archie Forster join the board.

Savills: Mrs Aviva Gershuny-Roth has been appointed director of marketing.

SupaSnaps: Mr Andrew Miller becomes managing director from next month and Mr Brian Perkins becomes sales director.

Dearden Farrow: Mr David Tallon becomes senior partner, succeeding Mr Ray Whittaker.

Hunting Associated Industries: Sir Ronald Mason

has been made a director. London & Clydeside Holdings: Mr Willie Wiseman joins the board.

Security Pacific Hoare Govett: Mr George Handjiniolous becomes vice president.

Oceanic Asset Management: Mr Gwyn Davies becomes director, corporate finance.

ECS International UK: Mr Antonio Colboe becomes managing director.

CW Communications: Mr Martin Dumas has been promoted vice president, northern Europe.

TecQuipment: Mr AC

Brightman has been made chief executive, from December 1.

PRO NED: Mr Bruce Rhodes has been appointed associate director.

Binder Hamlyn: Mr William Casey, Mr Christopher Honeyman Brown, Mr Alastair Scrimgeour and Mr Phillip Sykes become partners.

Cussins Property Group: Mr Alastair Mackenzie has been made commercial director.

Cullen's Holdings: Mr Edward Reckford becomes finance director.

# Hogg buys two estate agencies

By Alison Eadie

Hogg Robinson, the insurance broker to travel and estate agency group, yesterday announced the expansion of its estate agency network to 47 outlets through the acquisition of two more agencies for £5.8 million.

It is buying Ancombe & Ringland with eight offices in central London and Russell, Baldwin & Bright with 14 branches in Herefordshire. Hogg is the ninth largest estate agency group in Britain.

The combined pretax profits of the two businesses being acquired totalled £366,000 last year. The net assets are £784,000. Hogg is paying £4.2 million in cash and £1.2 million in redeemable preference shares with a further £400,000 payable in cash depending on the profits of Ancombe this year.

Hogg intends to continue buying agencies and in time may combine them with the larger travel outlets. It does not foresee any dilution in earnings in the current financial year.

It announced its first move into the estate agency business in July and plans to sell mortgages, endowment policies, life cover and personal insurance policies as well as houses. It sees the business as a natural extension of its personal financial operations.

# Profit-taking hits Dow

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street stocks fell in early trading yesterday in moderate volume as profit-taking set in after a 16-point rise in the Dow Jones industrial average on Monday.

Traders noted a tendency to sell as the average neared the 1,900-level. The Senate elections also led to some caution.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 8.81 to 1,886.25 at one stage. The transport average slipped 3.0 to 838.38 and the utilities indicator was down just 0.63 to 210.04.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500-stock index lost 0.70 to 245.18 while the New York Stock Exchange composite index fell 0.36 to 141.01.

The declining shares led advancing issues by a margin of about seven-to-four.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 8.81 to 1,886.25 at one stage. The transport average slipped 3.0 to 838.38 and the utilities indicator was down just 0.63 to 210.04.

Table with columns for various stock indices and prices, including Dow Jones, S&P 500, NYSE Composite, etc.

Table titled 'CANADIAN PRICES' listing various Canadian stocks and their prices.

### COMPANY NEWS

● A&P APPELDORE: An Applelore subsidiary, Dover Ship Repairs, has agreed with Sealink UK to take over the ship repair and engineering workshops operated by Sealink at Dover and Folkestone together with the employees operating the facilities.

● WB INDUSTRIES: Six months to June 30. No dividend. Turnover £2,277,563 (£2,135,257), operating loss £75,160 (£29,497 loss), pretax profit £23,509 (£26,053 loss), loss per ordinary share 0.24p (1.10p).

● BANRO: The company says that 93.4 per cent of the 2,501,503 new ordinary shares offered by way of rights has been taken up. The balance of the new ordinary shares has been sold.

● ROTHMANS INC: Six months to September 30 (figures in \$ million, comparisons restated). Consolidated net sales 439.0 or £311 million (434.1), earnings from continuing operations - Rothmans of Pall Mall 4.8 (7.7), Carling O'Keefe less minority interest 4.8 (1.0). Earnings per share \$1.59 (\$1.42).

● TR ENERGY: No dividend for the year to November 3 (figures in £000). Income from fixed assets investments 1,047 (1,759). Investment dealing losses 262 (75 profit), pretax deficit 563 (256 revenue), loss per share 1.8p (1p earnings).

● WA HOLDINGS: No interim dividend, but the board will review the position in the light of the full year's results. Figures in £000 for six months to July 31. Turnover 7,740 (6,675), pretax profits 293 (142), earnings per share 1.03p (0.47).

The board says that further acquisitions in line with the group's expansion policy are planned and prospects remain encouraging.

● SHEFFIELD BRICK GROUP: Results for 17 months to May 31 (over 1984). No dividend (nil). Figures in £000. Turnover 3,380 (2,735), loss before tax 153 (profit 8), loss per share 3.21p (earnings 0.17p).

● BSG INTERNATIONAL: BSG has purchased from Elders LXL and Wood Hall Australian Proprietary whole of the issued share capital of Rainsford Metal Products Proprietary. The consideration is being satisfied by allotment to vendors of 18,920,500 new BSG shares. Samuel Montagu has agreed to arrange the placing of new BSG shares as vendors wish to receive consideration in cash amounting to a total of about £9.1 million.

● MARLBOROUGH TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT: The company has acquired Liverpool-based Pure Organics which will be run by a new subsidiary, MTM Manufacturing.

● GABLE HOUSE PROPERTIES: Offer made on behalf of Ladbroke by Charterhouse Bank to acquire Gable House will close on November 17.

● GODWIN WARREN CONTROL SYSTEMS: Interim dividend 1.1p (same). Figures in £000 for six months to June 30. Turnover 3,657 (3,250), loss before tax 452 (225 profit), no tax (83), loss per share 9.3p (3.9p earnings). The board remains confident that 1987 will prove to be a record year.

● MARLER ESTATES: Agreement has been reached in principle for the acquisition by Breverleigh from Marler of International Business Centres for £1,375 million, to be satisfied by the allotment of new Breverleigh ordinary shares credited as fully paid up at par.

● MORTGAGE BASE RATES: Table listing mortgage base rates for various banks and companies.



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Table titled 'BASE LENDING RATES' showing interest rates for various financial institutions like ABN, Adam & Company, BCCI, etc.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Barratt beset by bid talk as Kuwaitis sell 11% stake

By Carol Leonard

A question mark was hanging over the independence of Barratt Developments...

The stake, worth about £20 million, is thought to have been picked up by an American market-maker...

Blue Circle later denied this. Mr Robert James, group finance director of Barratt...

City experts estimate that if the activity were to result in a bid it would have to be at around the 220p level...

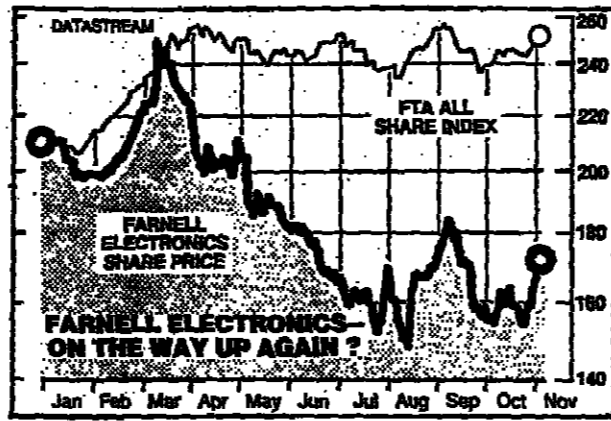
Elsewhere the stock market had another firm day, despite weaker-than-expected reserve figures for October...

Gilt opened easier but rallied before the close to finish with scattered rises of 1/4 across the board.

Hanson Trust was the highest volume equity, notching up a total of 13 million shares...

Glaxo, the big pharmaceuticals company, slipped 6p to 94 1/2p and could be in for a further halving today...

The company has seen its share price tumble from a high of 250p earlier this year - yesterday it firmed 6p to 177p...



DATASTREAM FARNELL ELECTRONICS SHARE PRICE ON THE WAY UP AGAIN?

"They think they have given too gloomy an impression to the City," said Mr Richard Dyett, an analyst at Chase...

Oil prices eased a few pence across the board, despite continued talk that the Saudis want to push the price up to \$18 a barrel...

Commercial Union was down 5p to 283p after the news broke in London yesterday that a Californian court had awarded \$26 million

(£18.4 million) damages against the company to a child who fell out of a jeep and is now brain damaged...

Any consortium rescue package would almost certainly involve Hambros Bank.

Parsons Corbin, the broker, has published a buy circular on Parkfield Group...

Which, before the PWS bid had planned to merge its Fieldings insurance subsidiary with Heath...

Banks were dull with the partly-paid TSB shares slipping 1 1/2p to 80 1/2p.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet Japanese throw US rivals off balance

The biggest threat to the liberalization of capital markets and the boom in financial services is protectionism.

Already the Japanese banks and securities houses have a formidable presence in the United States...

Yesterday, as the November auctions got under way, the New York bond market was in a lather of uncertainty.

There is an understanding on the "right" exchange rate in present conditions between the Japanese and the Americans...

None of this may happen. The debt auctions might go swimmingly, with everyone making money.

The doubts remain Meanwhile back in what some prefer to think of as the real world, Americans were voting in their customary disappointing numbers.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table with columns for 1986 High/Low Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E, Volume, and 1985 High/Low Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E, Volume.

Royal Ordnance prepares for the assault of market forces

By Teresa Poole

The crown prince of the Government's privatization programme, the heads of the companies that have passed into private ownership...

By July the share sale had been cancelled. By October, against RO's wishes, the Leeds tank factory had been sold to Vickers...

Yes Mr Pinnington has gone to the effort of devising an extensive management re-organization, announced last week...

With the proposed privatization less than three months away, Mr Pinnington plans to streamline the four divisions into two: naval, air and engineering...



Roger Pinnington: "good chance of privatization next year."

pany is to make assumptions. At no time is there any certainty in life," said Mr Pinnington...

The emphasis will be in future on stricter financial controls, improved marketing and customer relations...

Since RO became a limited company in 1985, much has been done to combat a civil-service approach. Indeed, to the outsider, most of the supposed benefits of privatization have already been introduced.

Had government ownership, now an arm's-length relationship, restrained the company? "I have not been restricted in any shape or form."

There is also the question of whether Royal Ordnance is a suitable vehicle for privatization. The need to maintain extra capacity in case of war has meant a series of contracts that go some way to creating a protected market...

Mr Pinnington said those contracts were no different from many he had experienced in private industry.

Worries, shared by the unions, about further job cuts and factory closures were aired, if necessary, through anonymous written questions.

Last year, when Norcross made an agreed takeover of UBM, where Mr Pinnington had been chief executive, there was no immediate opening for him at the new company.

UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF PENNY SHARE PROFITS

Did you know that there are thousands of men and women in this country quietly making money out of low priced Penny Shares?

FANTASTIC GROWTH RECORD Sixteen out of last year's top twenty performing shares were Penny Shares.

Table showing stock performance: Noble & Lund, W A Holdings, Woodhouse-Rose, Somportex, Ashley Industrial, A C Cars, Trax-Kensley, British Benzol, Unigrip, Spencer-Clark.

Imagine how much your capital would have increased if you had invested in any of these Penny Share winners.

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hits DOWN

BASE LENDING RATES

FUTURES AND OPTIONS

Futures surge in Sydney defies laws of gravity

Things tend to happen the wrong way round in Australia, apart from the bath water, whose anticlockwise passage down the plughole fascinates visitors from the northern hemisphere.

Some of the phenomena cannot be explained by the laws of nature. For instance, when a conservative government was in power here, the economy and financial sector were protected by controls and regulations more usually associated with socialist countries.

The development and growth of the Sydney Futures Exchange (SFE) presents a similar tale of contrary timing. After more than 20 years of slow and unimpressive progress...

In 1984 the Exchange traded 518,000 contracts, a figure that swelled to 1.22 million last year. In the first nine months of 1986, it has notched up 2.5 million contracts.

Of course, deregulation and the SFE's success are connected. The floating of the Australian dollar and the abolition of exchange controls have exposed the Australian financial markets to the capriciousness of international money flows.

By Richard Lander

rates have risen from 11 per cent to as high as 21 per cent while the Australian dollar has sunk, rather than floated, losing 40 per cent in trade-weighted terms.

All this has been done in business in purely domestic products, with Australian treasury bonds and 90-day bank-notes futures spearheading the phenomenal expansion.

Last week, the SFE opened its stall to the outside world with the inauguration of its foreign contract, in US treasury bonds.

Its two interest rate contracts are identical and fungible with existing Life contracts, while the gold contract will be similarly matched with Comex.

Hopes are pinned on the T-bond contract where Sydney hopes to take advantage of its time-zone location. Business starts one hour after trading in Chicago closes and ends minutes before Life's traders don their multi-coloured jackets.

create a full 24-hour market. But traders would need to be persuaded that there is sufficient profit potential before agreeing to such a move.

Mr Les Hoskins, the Exchange's chief executive, reckons no more than 20 per cent of bond business will come from domestic users. Of the remainder, he is looking for overflow business from Chicago and London and hedge and speculative buying from players in the huge physical market in bonds in Tokyo.

Although Japanese securities houses face obstacles when it comes to trading in foreign futures markets, Mr Hoskins reckons there should be good demand from the American investment banks which are active in Tokyo.

If the SFE does prosper with its new ventures, it will be the first market in the Asian time zone to tackle international financial futures successfully. This year Hong Kong has re-started with index futures in the early 1980s. The Singapore International Monetary Exchange (Simex) has never achieved great volumes in spite of being linked to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) since its birth in 1984.

Mr Hoskins and other SFE officials are confident Sydney can lick Singapore. Among the advantages they cite for Australia are language, a westernized legal and political system and a futures trading community that has been in place since 1960.

Hopkinsons sets another record

COMPANY NEWS

Hopkinsons Holdings, the Huddersfield valve manufacturer, has chalked up another set of record profits.

At the half-way stage pretax profits were up 31 per cent to £4.08 million on turnover 17.6 per cent ahead at almost £38 million.

The interim dividend is 2.75p a share compared with 2p last time. In the first half, all the trading subsidiaries traded at a profit, with Bryan Donkin, supplier of valves to the gas industry, continuing to make strong progress.

ANBERSE INVESTMENT TRUST: The trust's value at October 31 per cent ahead at 466.58p (previous month 466.58p).

ABERFOYLE HOLDINGS: No interim dividend. Results for the six months to June 30. Figures in £000: turnover 3,578 (4,084). Profit before interest and tax 896 (305). Net interest payable 138(167). Share of loss in associated company 758 (138). Pretax profit 754 (91).

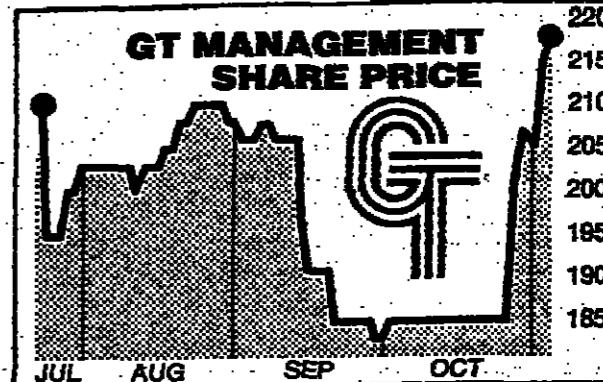
JF PACIFIC WARRANT COMPANY: Net asset value at October 31 per cent ordinary share 233.77.

ARZCO: Third quarter results, figures in guineas 000s. Net sales 3,745.1 or £1,140 million (4,347.3). Operating income 363.1 (346.2). Earnings of consolidated companies from normal operations after taxes 208.5 (183.3). Earnings from non-consolidated companies 1.2 (26.7). Extraordinary credits 1.7 (2.2). Minority interest 16.1 (20.2). Net income 195.3 (191.8). Earnings per share 4.88 guineas (4.83 guineas).

CANNON STREET INVESTMENTS: The company has acquired Bekkers Beheer, of Holland, through its Dutch holding company, Cannon Street European Holdings. The initial cash consideration is £1,750,000 (£2,093,000), and there will be additional payments dependent on Bekkers' future profits.

TEMPUS

Newcomer GT dazzles with interim results



GT Management can be well satisfied with its first set of results since coming to market. Pretax profits nearly tripled from £2.2 million to £6 million for the six months to September 30 on turnover up 65 per cent to £18.8 million.

Funds under management grew by 15 per cent from £3.36 billion to £3.87 billion, largely due to the rise in the market rather than the net addition of funds. Indeed, success has been the success of its management of Edis (Employees' Retirement Income Security Act) money that GT has effectively lost some pension money.

The value of the Edis funds, the internationally invested portion of certain US corporate pension portfolios, grew to better half a proportion of the total pension fund, causing the trustees to withdraw some of the monies back to the US.

In the results statement, released yesterday, GT revealed the high cost of saving the Berry Trust from being swallowed by the Ensign Trust, one of the funds in the Merchant Navy Pension Fund stable. GT provided £882,000 in the first half of this year for the diminution in value of its 2 million Berry Trust shares which it used to ward off Ensign's attack.

The charge was made below the line and was more than matched by profits on disposals of group investments in Japan to give an extraordinary gain of £246,000. However, we may not have heard the last of Ensign as it can come back in a year's time with a new bid.

GT has been investing heavily in its development. In addition to a £2.5 million computerization programme, it is planning a big expansion in the US mutual funds business and is hoping to gain recognized investment manager status in Japan in a year's time. Both these moves will involve higher staffing.

A senior Japanese appointment has already been made, while the individual who will run the US mutual fund operation in San Francisco is in the process of being identified. GT will therefore be raising its cost base ahead of the ability to raise its income.

The second half has started well. But Japan has gone off the boil and the second six months, traditionally the

stronger half, may this year only match the first.

Nigel Russell, investment trust analyst at James Capel, the stockbroker, estimates GT should make £11 million in the full year to March. This puts the shares on a prospective multiple of 14, similar to that of rivals such as Henderson Administration.

The shares have enjoyed a strong run over the last few weeks and look fairly priced.

Albert Fisher

For a company to issue shares which increase its market capitalization by almost 40 per cent and still see a small rise in its share price is a pretty good achievement.

In the case of Albert Fisher Group, which yesterday announced a £44.3 million string of acquisitions, it signifies the heavy institutional demand for its paper.

Yesterday's three British acquisitions expand the company's product range and give it a firmer toehold in the catering industry as well as widening its British client base. The opportunities for links with its existing British food division look good.

The US purchase will develop the company's Florida base, established through the recent acquisition of Tavilla and the existing Carnival Fruit Company subsidiary.

Apart from the geographical synergy involved in the deal, it takes Albert Fisher more into the value-added side of the fresh fruit and vegetable business where margins are higher. The company is looking to develop this side of the business.

Yesterday's acquisitions leave the company with £45 million net tangible worth free of borrowings. Albert

Fisher would be comfortable with £30 million borrowings so there could well be more action to come.

Avis Europe

Dealings in Avis Europe start on the stock market tomorrow. But signs are ominous after one third of the shares were left in the hands of underwriters.

However, the sponsors' disappointment is the investing public's opportunity. Shares in the grey market slipped further yesterday. Cleveland Securities quoted them at 210p to 220p against an offer price of 250p. At this level they may be worth buying.

Analysts never doubted the strengths of the company, but thought the shares were too highly priced. British investors concurred and gave the issue a bad raspberry.

At 250p the prospective p/e ratio would be 13.9 against an average in the motor sector of 8 or 9. Certainly Avis deserves a healthy premium to the sector, but not as healthy as it awarded itself.

The sponsors' eagerness not to have Avis caged a motor stock and therefore lumped with manufacturers seems to have backfired. Even as an industrial stock a historic p/e of 17.9 is no giveaway.

However, the company is offering the prospects of at least 15 per cent annual compound growth. James Capel, the stockbroker, reckons the shares should be bought up to the 230p to 235p level and stored as a long-term core investment.

Any edging towards the 250p price is likely to spur a rush of selling for the next few months at least.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table with columns for Market rates, Dollar spot rates, and Sterling spot and forward rates. Includes entries for New York, London, and various currencies.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing Three Month Sterling, Three Month Eurodollar, and US Treasury Bond futures prices and changes.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table listing various stock options with columns for Series, Date, and Price.

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS

Table showing deposit rates for various currencies and terms, including Dollar, Swiss Franc, and Deutsche Mark.

GOLD

Table showing gold prices in London and other markets, including Gold Bullion and Gold Bars.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent public offerings of shares and bonds, including Marborough Tech, Mecca Leisure, and Miller & Santoum.

RIGHTS ISSUES

Table listing rights issues for various companies, including Bellway N/P, Blue Arrow N/P, and Brown Hart N/P.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies like Argentina, Australia, and Brazil.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table showing dollar spot rates for various countries including Ireland, Singapore, and Malaysia.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table showing call and put options for various stocks like Allied Lyons, BP, and Coma Gold.

EGGD

Table showing EGD rates for various currencies and terms.

EGGD

Table showing EGD rates for various currencies and terms.

Advertisement for Daiwa Europe Limited, announcing the listing of BTR plc Ordinary Shares on the Tokyo Stock Exchange with effect from 5th November, 1986. Includes contact information for Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd., Tokyo.

Large table of LONDON TRADED OPTIONS, listing call and put options for various stocks including Allied Lyons, BP, Coma Gold, and many others.

Advertisement for Bird Semple & Fyfe Ireland, The partners of Fyfe Ireland & Co. W.S., and Rothschild's International Money Funds. Includes contact information and a list of fund names.





THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing Unit Trust Information Service data, listing various funds, managers, and performance metrics.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of Unlisted Securities, listing company names, shares, and prices.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of Investment Trusts, listing trust names, assets, and performance.

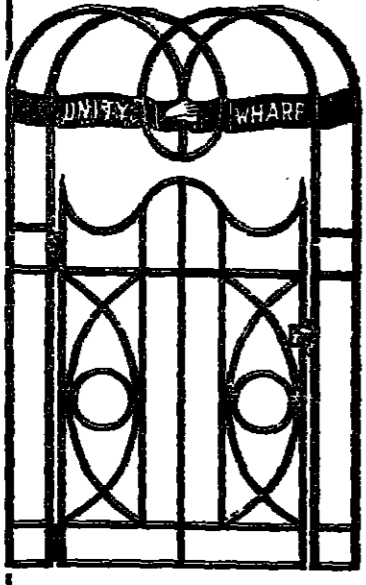
Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices, taken at 3pm. Yield, change and % are calculated on the middle price.

The prices in this section refer to Monday's trading.
By Dr. Richard C. Coan, Chairman of the Commodity Futures Council...

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\*Based on estimated average replacement cost in a 3 bedroom house

## BRAND NEW HOME



1986

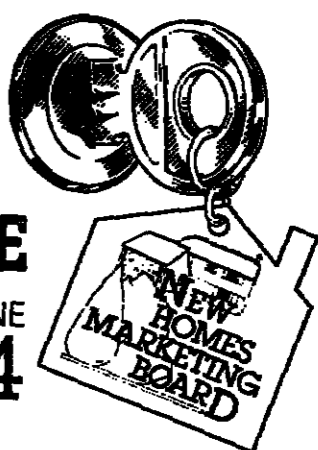
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- Bayes Grove, Royston Two 3 bed luxury detached houses remaining from £149,950 to £129,950 □
- Woodlands, Watlington Studio apartments. Prices waived. 1 & 2 bed maisonettes from £44,950 □
- Cranford Close, Ebbw Vale One 4 bed town house remaining at £115,000. All units currently reserved. Cancellation list being prepared □

**Sites shortly to be commenced**

- Ebbw Vale 1 & 2 bed flats, 3 & 4 bed houses, 2 bed bungalows. Prices waived. Sales due to start early 1987 □
- Arnsall, Ware Luxury 3, 4 & 5 bed detached houses available early 1987 □

**SOMERSET DEVELOPMENTS**

- Woodbury Park, Embsay 4 bed detached houses. Prices waived. 5 bed detached houses from £83,950 □
- Mansfield, East Somerset 2 bed luxury maisonettes remaining from £53,950 to £36,400 □

For further information on prices and availability of each site Hunting Gate Homes Chiltern Limited, 3/4 Park Street, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9BT. Tel: Hitchin 9244. Hunting Gate Homes Southern, Buckland House, Clarendon Lane, Esher, Surrey KT10 9JL. Tel: Esher 5915. Homebuilders, Chancer House, 6 Boleyn Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex, BN17 1BB. Tel: Haywards Heath 416631.

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**DAVID WILSON HOMES**  
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**RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY/1**



Barratt's Teanyson house, far left, which now has a conservatory, and, above, the more modest Kenilworth of Alfred McAlpine Homes

**What every buyer needs to know**

The most important service the housebuilder can provide when he presents his new house to the public is to be helpful to the customer and give him or her accurate pre-purchase information, a survey of new house buyers shows.

The survey, part of the *Housebuilder of the Year* competition run by Express Newspapers in association with the New Homes Marketing Board, reports that the next four services in order of priority are advice received on legal matters, meeting the building deadline, the condition of the house on moving-in day, and the efficiency of the builder in rectifying faults.

The first priority has remained in that position for three years, emphasizing that potential buyers need to be reassured on the facts of house buying before taking the plunge.

They are also increasingly discerning in their approach to house-buying, whether it is a first home or not, and builders, not surprisingly, are taking up the challenge of building better and more imaginatively.

To those buying older homes, it may be a surprise to know that new houses are more expensive. But statistics provided by the Nationwide Building Society show that the average for Britain is £45,000 for a new house, £40,000 for a modern house, and £35,000 for an older one.

For detached houses, the average is about £60,000 (new), £56,000 (modern) and £57,000 (older). For terraced houses the figures are £34,000, £32,000 and £29,000 respectively.

"Kerb appeal" helps to sell houses, a feature which many builders concentrate on, both in single houses and clusters. Berkely Homes, for example, is building six large detached Tudor-style properties in a wooded location in Ardley, Hertfordshire, in which each is individually designed, part rendered, part timbered with some herringbone brickwork.

The brick and tile was chosen carefully to blend into the rural atmosphere, great attention has been paid to detail and the houses cost about £395,000. David Wilson Homes, one of the award winners, operating largely in the Mid-

lands, takes the view that each buyer wants something different and, therefore, has 150 designs.

On its 800-house development at Leicester Forest East it is using all of them, from bungalow to Tudor, Georgian and Regency, and probably a few more before it is completed as new demands emerge.

Barratt's Premier Collection of more than 50 styles, launched last year, has now been updated and several more added. The range costs from £20,000 to more than £450,000 and at the latter end of the market - the Sovereign range - further luxury features have been added.

Barratt has noted the resurgence of interest in conservatories and has included a Victorian-style conservatory with its Teanyson four-bedroom house. Upstairs the master bedroom has a split-level bathroom with a whirlpool bath and separate shower, while the main bathroom has an adjoining sauna.

buyers. The five-bedroom detached houses are all under offer, but there are a few semi-detached houses for sale through Winkworth Blackheath and Hornors of Beskenham, at £255,000 and £257,500.

They have, among their features, "period" mouldings, skirtings and architraves throughout.

Alfred McAlpine Homes, faced with the many standard "boxes" still being built, has dispensed with the uniform method of home construction and is attempting to emulate other builders who are providing greater variety. Its styles remain traditional, but it is adopting an adventurous approach to ensure that no two developments look the same, and at the same time offering a different combination of design features and specifications for each house.

One of its three-storey houses at Grange Park Place, Wimbledon, incorporates a turret enclosing a circular stairway. At Redkitch, a four-bedroom detached house built into a hillside on two different levels has a split-level entrance.

McAlpine has more than 50 house types, from starter homes to retirement homes, ranging in price from £22,950 to £350,000. They are designed to be as maintenance free as possible, with extensive insulation and energy saving standards far above the present building regulations.

The prize for the most unusual new home on the market goes to Britain's first geodesic dome home - that is the claim of the builder Nectar Domes Ltd of Purley, Surrey - at Tatsfield on the Surrey/Kent borders. It has been furnished by interior designers to complement the style of the dome and has a spacious central lobby leading to the main rooms and master bedroom suite, with a gallery and three further bedrooms on the first floor. It costs about £300,000.

It is designed to be thermally efficient and has 38 per cent less surface area than a conventional home through which to lose heat. The dome, 45 feet in diameter with a floor area of 2,600 square feet, is set in half an acre of wooded ground and the selling agent is Distinctive Homes, Bromley, Kent.

By Christopher Warman  
 Property Correspondent

**Octagon at Leatherhead**

**CAMPBELL COURT**

A choice of spacious two bedroom apartments is available at Campbell Court which is ideally situated in private secluded grounds in one of Leatherhead's prime residential areas a few hundred yards from the town centre and local amenities.

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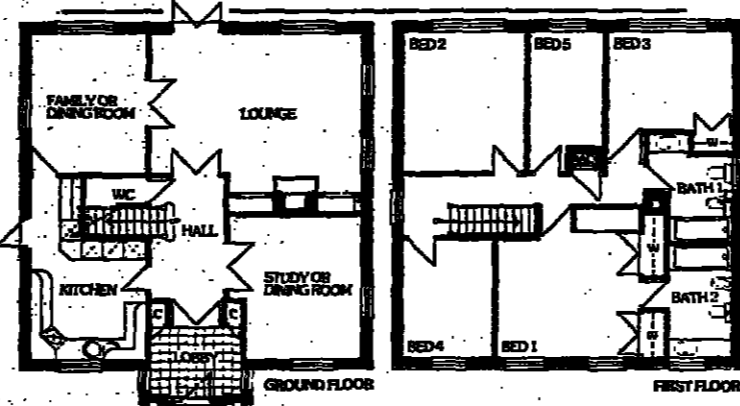
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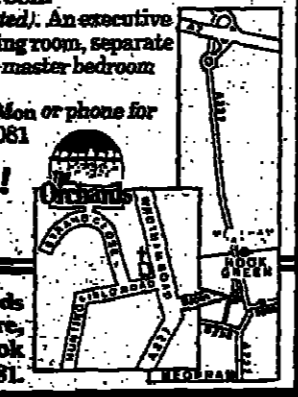


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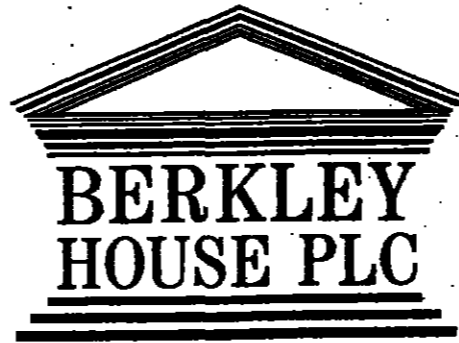
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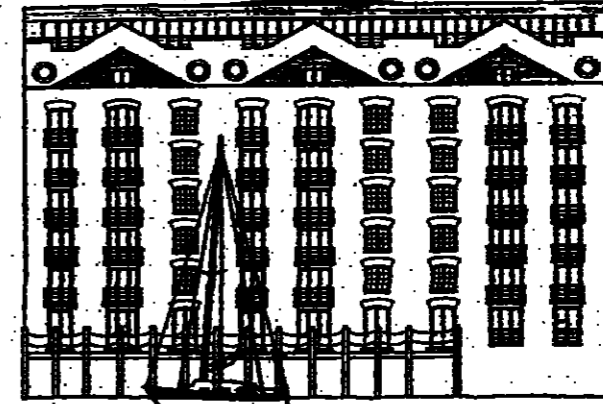


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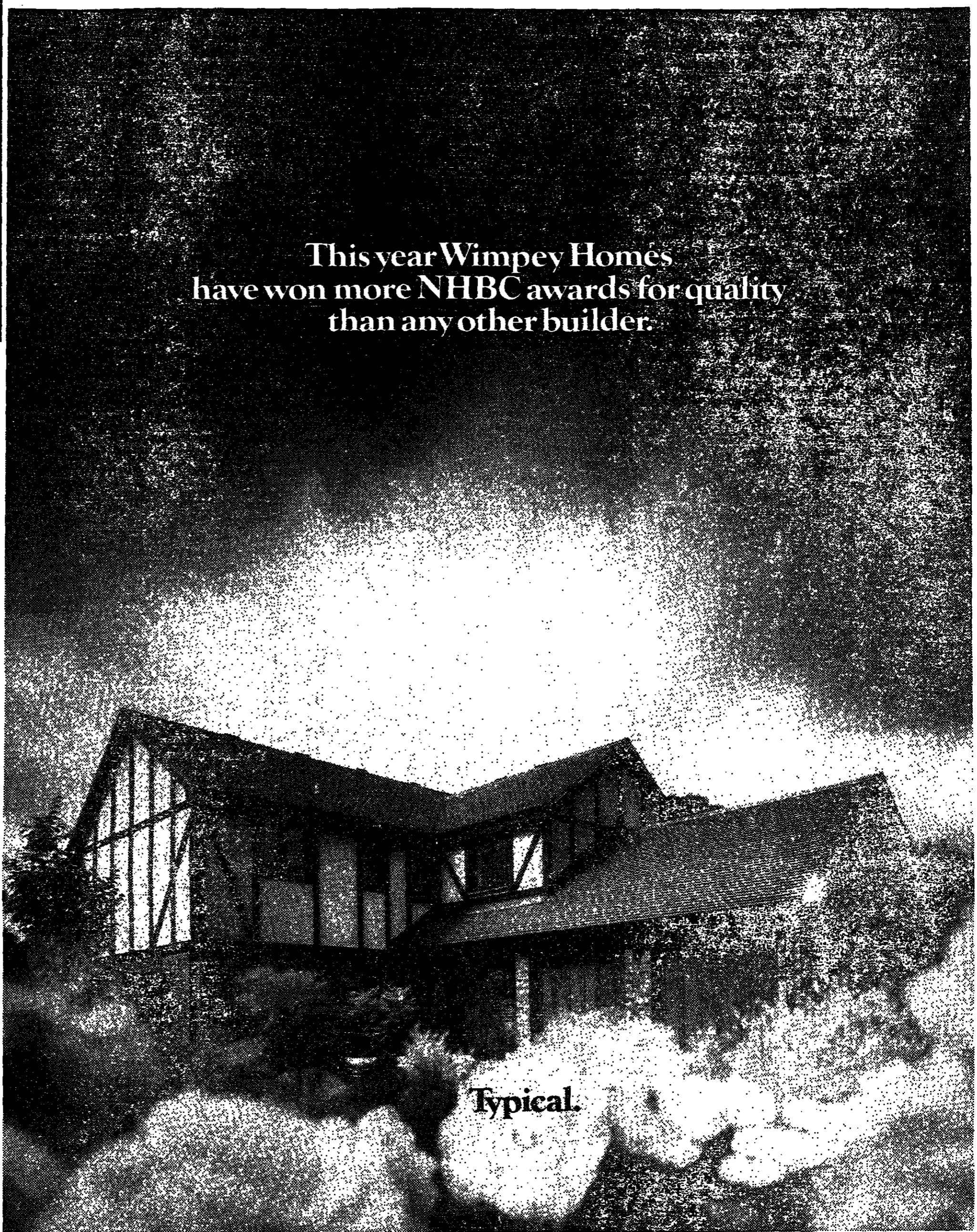
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RACING: COMPETITIVE LINE-UP FOR NEWBURY HURDLE

Ten Plus to earn full marks again

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With Ten Plus, Bronski, Atrabates, Ibn Majed and Mrs Muck, all standing their ground at Newbury today for the Tom Mason Trophy...

Ten Plus reserved his best performance of the season for the National Hunt Festival at Cheltenham where he galloped his rivals into the ground in the Sun Alliance Hurdle...

point out that Mrs Muck has not inappropriately for one with her name, run her best races when there has been plenty of mud flying about.

him go really well in the EBF Novices' Hurdle Qualifier especially as Fred Winner has agreed to let Scudamore off riding Canford Palm.



The blinkered At Talaq storming clear under Michael Clarke's strong driving in yesterday's Melbourne Cup

Results, page 42

Otherwise, it should pay to follow Richard Deacon upon the fact that Finowick is running against Ulan Bator on this of all days.

Well that he is expected to go, my information is still that trainer Nicky Henderson's best chance of visiting the winner's enclosure this afternoon will be after Scallies has contested the bumper (the EBF National Hunt Flat race).

NEWBURY Selections By Mandarin. 12.45 Pucks Place. 1.15 Barrat Oak. 1.45 Voice Of Progress. 2.15 TEN PLUS (nap). 2.45 Ulan Bator. 3.15 Problem Child. 3.45 Scallies.

Going: good. 12.45 EBF NOVICE HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,050; 2m 100yd) (22 runners). 102 P-0 AMORABLE CRUICHTON (Major R Thomson) D Blawie 5-11-9...

1.15 LONOFF VICKY MEMORIAL HURDLE CHASE (£2,981; 3m) (7 runners). 101 34/100/11 TRACY SPECIAL (L. A. Jones) A Tarnall 8-12-1...

FORM TRACY SPECIAL (10-1) fell at the 9th in the Grand National when KNOCK HILL (10-1) was beaten by 15 lengths. BURNT OAK (11-7) best Percepsus Knight (10-1) at Wincanton (10-1) on 28/10, good, Oct 30, 7 m. LEODEGANDER (3rd last time out, earlier (11-8) had on by 11 from Cheltenham (10-1) on 22/10, 5 m. SPINNING TOP (11-1) best in the Sun. Last season in the Sun (11-1) had on by 12 from Cheltenham (10-1) on 22/10, 5 m. Selection: BURNT OAK.

1.45 MARSH BENHAM HURDLE CHASE (£3,211; 2m 4f) (7 runners). 301 40/14-1 VOICE OF PROGRESS (CJ) (M. Vasey) D Nicholson 8-12-2 (ret.)...

FORM VOICE OF PROGRESS (10-1) was an easy winner first time out over course and distance, beating Wm in the Gold Cup 4th Run and 2nd (2) on 11/10, good, Oct 24, 7 m. BURNT OAK (11-7) best Percepsus Knight (10-1) at Wincanton (10-1) on 28/10, good, Oct 30, 7 m. LEODEGANDER (3rd last time out, earlier (11-8) had on by 11 from Cheltenham (10-1) on 22/10, 5 m. SPINNING TOP (11-1) best in the Sun. Last season in the Sun (11-1) had on by 12 from Cheltenham (10-1) on 22/10, 5 m. Selection: BELGROVE LAD.

Course specialists

TRAINERS JOCKEYS. T Foster: 7 54 31.4. R Smyth: 5 15 21.1. F White: 47 190 24.7. G Sheppard: 31 149 23.8. J Jenkins: 13 88 19.1.

EDINBURGH Selections. 1.15 Corriellan. 1.45 Ski Captain. 2.15 Reform Princess. 2.45 Natija. 3.15 Miss Of Avalon. 3.45 Crown Justice.

2.15 TENNENTS NOVEMBER HURDLE CHASE (£1,923; 1m 7f) (17 runners). 1 1300-00 KILLARY BAY (R. Gormally) H Thacker 4-8-10...

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0422 TIMEFORM (CJRP) (Mrs J Pyle) B Hat 9-10-0. Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure and distance winner. BF-best favours in last form (F-fall, P-pulled up, U-unsettled rider, B-weight, O-rider plus any allowance, The Times Price Index, Handicapper's rating, Approximate starting C-course winner, D-distance winner, CD-course price.

2.15 TOM MASSON TROPHY HURDLE (£3,258; 2m 4f 120yd) (9 runners). 201 20/111-1 TEN PLUS (L. Thwaites) F Walsby 6-11-8...

FORM TEN PLUS (11-7) was an impressive 150 winner of the Sun Alliance at the Cheltenham Festival (2m 4f, £2,250), good, Oct 24, 7 m. From Pike's Peak (11-0) on 11/10, good, Oct 24, 7 m. Selection: TEN PLUS.

2.45 COKETHORPE NOVICE CHASE (£2,477; 2m 4f) (8 runners). 502 50/10-2 ULAN BATOR (A. Jackson) F Wiles 9-11-5...

FORM ULAN BATOR (11-7) lost ground at the start and hit the last, but still beat Jeremy Quick (12-0) at Wincanton (11-7) on 28/10, good, Oct 30, 7 m. Selection: ULAN BATOR.

3.15 COLD ASH NOVICE HURDLE (3-Y-O; £1,417; 2m 100yd) (15 runners). 1 PROBLEM CHILD (Lord Macalister) R Smith 11-6...

FORM PROBLEM CHILD (11-6) was an impressive 150 winner of the Sun Alliance at the Cheltenham Festival (2m 4f, £2,250), good, Oct 24, 7 m. Selection: PROBLEM CHILD.

3.45 EBF NATIONAL HUNT FLY RACE (£1,197; 2m 100yd) (25 runners). 1 LE CAROLINE (Mrs J May) P Hobbs 4-11-7...

FORM LE CAROLINE (Mrs J May) P Hobbs 4-11-7 was an impressive 150 winner of the Sun Alliance at the Cheltenham Festival (2m 4f, £2,250), good, Oct 24, 7 m. Selection: LE CAROLINE.

2.45 TENNENTS SPECIAL SELLING STAKES (£919; 1m) (16 runners). 2 010000 AVARAGE (CJ) (Mrs E Dewing) R Morris 7-8-4...

FORM AVARAGE (CJ) (Mrs E Dewing) R Morris 7-8-4 was an impressive 150 winner of the Sun Alliance at the Cheltenham Festival (2m 4f, £2,250), good, Oct 24, 7 m. Selection: AVARAGE.

3.45 LAMOT PILS NURSERY HURDLE CHASE (2-Y-O; £1,320; 7f) (16 runners). 1 00000 SUPREME STATE (T. Wharton) P Meakin 9-7...

FORM SUPREME STATE (T. Wharton) P Meakin 9-7 was an impressive 150 winner of the Sun Alliance at the Cheltenham Festival (2m 4f, £2,250), good, Oct 24, 7 m. Selection: SUPREME STATE.

Arab influence spreading as At Talaq triumphs in Australian showpiece

From Charles Benson, Melbourne

At Talaq probably changed the course of Australian racing history when winning the Melbourne Cup yesterday.

But then departing for Ganchi, still an apprentice, was harder to bear. Red Clarke says: all philosophically, though he admitted last night "I don't deny it was a little hard on occasions. But I knew I was working for the best stable in Australia and my time would come."

Not an attitude matched by many of our more impatient young sports stars these days but one that has fructified over a year ago when Ganchi led during the middle of the Melbourne Cup carnival 12 months ago.

But, in spite of his superb record, which has made him something of a national hero, he remains untouched by the adulation in which he is held and is, quite simply, a very nice man and a very modest one.

So it was equally appropriate that the winning jockey, 24-year-old Michael Clarke, should have lived his time as deputy and understudy to two local champions, Brent Thomson and Darren Ganchi.

Learning under Thomson, now a successful jockey riding in England, was fair enough.

WOLVERHAMPTON Selections. 1.30 Aconitum. 2.0 Chalket Waldegs. 2.30 Emmanon. 3.0 Emmanon. 3.30 Sweet Solictor. 4.0 Uniboc.

Going: firm good, back straight. 1.30 SHERAL NOVICE HURDLE (£1,249; 2m) (12 runners). 1-130 ERIC'S WISH (P. Goss) 5-11-5...

2.0 TOWN CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (£255; 2m 4f) (12). 2 0-12 CHALKET WALDEGS (D) D Gandolfo 6-10-13...

2.30 RACING POST HURDLE CHASE (£1,934; 2m) (18). 1-222 LIFE GUARD (CJ) S Harris 5-11-15...

Cameron resigns at Lingfield. David Cameron has resigned as clerk of the course at Lingfield Park, which he has held the position since July 1985...

MYST

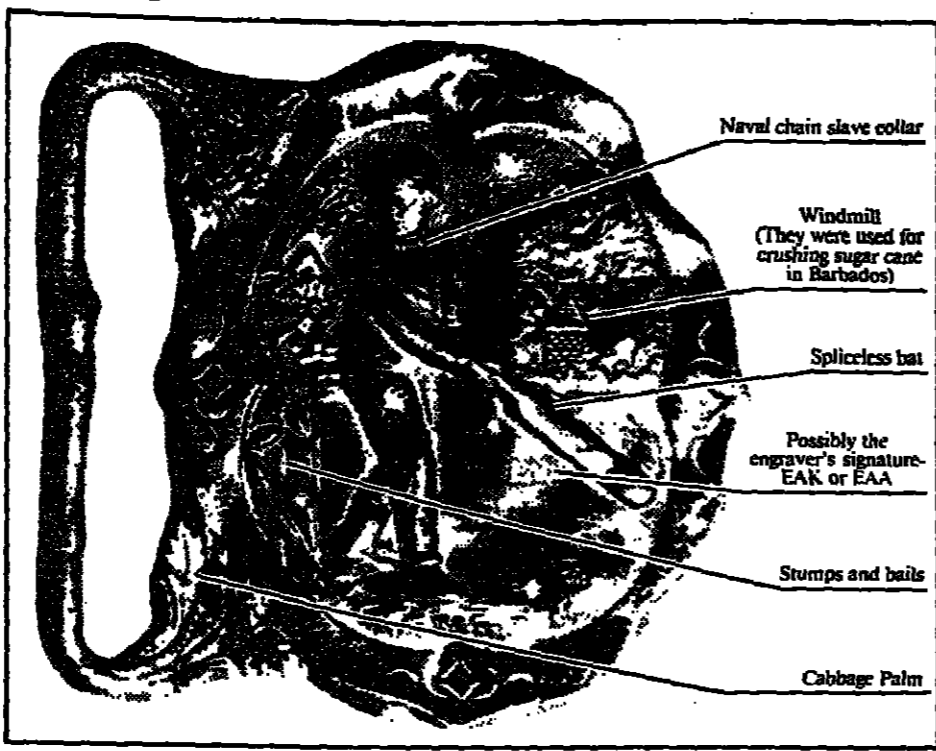
Cecil shooting ahead. Henry Cecil, locked in a private battle with Guy Harwood to saddle most winners this season, reached the 114-mark, extending his lead to two over the thoroughbred trainer, when Shooting Party scored for the Warren Place team at Leicester yesterday.



Marcus Williams investigates the oldest known artefact depicting cricket outside Britain

Mystery of a mud-covered buckle

When a small piece of metal "like the lid of a sardine tin" was found embedded on the banks of the River Tweed one drizzly afternoon seven years ago...



From the mud of the Tweed comes this scene depicting a batsman hearing the 'death rattle'

The metal object, no bigger than the palm of a man's hand, had lain two inches deep in silt, and a preliminary cleaning revealed that, far from wearing the last resting place of some hapless fish...

The presence of a windmill, hut, and foliage in the background and coarse grass at the batsman's feet suggested a rural setting...

It was four years later, while cleaning jewellery for his wife, that he remembered the buckle. The removal of further layers of accumulated deposit from the brass set off a train of painstaking detective work...

From this scene of cleaning it emerged that the batsman, far from being an Englishman or Scotsman, had Negrooid features...

suggested earlier origins. A subsequent X-ray analysis of the metal at Oxford University revealed that copper accounted for over 90 per cent of the content...

The batsman: According to Arnon Adams, a West Indian historian consulted by Mr Williams, the batsman looks like a well-fed, well-muscled mulatto...

Spliced bats, in which the handle is separate from but attached to the blade, date from the mid 1830s.

Mr Williams said that this might be a specific example of portraiture. He was playing in a particular match or it is only a representation of cricket as then played in the West Indies?

Who owned the buckle, or commissioned its engraving? More than likely it was a wealthy patron and this led Mr Williams to investigate the great families and houses along the Tweed Valley...

The date of the scene: The first dated reference to cricket in Barbados is 1806, though it indicates that the game had by then been established for some time on the island.

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Clive Williams with the buckle - a design which he hopes will adorn the 1991 World Cup in the West Indies

attempts on Tuttle Fields (now Vincent Square); while the Hothams, both on account of their proficiency in the new game as well as their success after life were later described with dual meaning as being among the lucky hits of Westminster.

Perhaps he organized cricket matches for his men - and there were many hundreds of marines as well as sailors in the fleet, and local slaves proficient at the game were included.

A planned forensic examination of the buckle may offer further evidence, such as whether the engraver's signature perceptible beneath the bottom edge of the bat is what may be EAK or EAA and time will tell whether Mr Williams's dream that the design of his beloved buckle appears on a world cricket trophy in the West Indies?

BADMINTON

Time to get the act together as sponsors move in

Last month Morten Frost, the world's leading player, made an impassioned attack upon the way in which badminton was marketed itself.

What annoyed Frost, and many others as well, is that politics interferes with the progress of the game so much that it is extremely difficult getting top Asians to play in Europe.

The game here is dominated too much by Denmark and England. Worse still, the Euro-cup, which has been the biggest event on the Continent, and with the biggest prize money - the All-England championships included.

There is no doubt the idea is an outstandingly good one. But the slow progress is beginning to look worryingly ominous.

There is no doubt the idea is an outstandingly good one. But the slow progress is beginning to look worryingly ominous.

Enter Walker and skirmishes begin

It is not surprising therefore that the entry into the sport of Walker International, a promotional company currently managing the affairs of Ian Botham amongst a large number of other sportsmen and women, has been welcomed by a majority of top English badminton players.

There is no attempt to take players away from the conventional game as there was in cricket, and I do feel there is a gap that can be filled in promoting and marketing the game.

Walker's first foray into the market may upset one or two establishment figures, because there is little doubt that some of the matches had only limited meaning in competitive terms.

Right players at the right time

What's more, the strengths of Chinese-Japanese contacts are well known. But the tough truth is that the right sponsors, with the right players, in the right venue, at the right time, is proving to be a difficult combination to create.

On the other hand, however, discussions about payments for playing for England have occurred since Walker's involvement - probably as an indirect result of it - and according to some players the services provided to them by the Badminton Association of England have definitely improved.

Scots pressure Chinese

Scotland came close to taming an under-strength Chinese team on Monday evening, going down 5-2 to the world champions in a challenge match in Dunfermline.

Kenny Middlemiss, an Edinburgh student, gave the Scots a fine start by defeating Xu Biao, ranked fifth in China, 15-5, 18-17.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing various sports fixtures including Football, European Cup, Somerset show, Rugby Union, and others.

W Indies win after barrage of bottles

From Richard Streeton, Gujranwala

Bottles and firecrackers thrown on to the outfield, together with appalling light, combined to bring a chaotic finish to the one-day international between Pakistan and West Indies here yesterday.

After the players had walked off the field, leaving the 26,000 crowd puzzled and angry, the umpires ruled in their charge the room that West Indies had won on faster scoring rate.

By the time the scorers had deducted the seven maiden overs bowled by Pakistan, and cross-checked the Pakistan batting details, it emerged that West Indies' 196 for seven was clearly superior to their 155 for six. That, at any rate, was the explanation given to me by the umpires.

Four times during the afternoon West Indian deep fielders were harassed by bottles, firecrackers and banana skins being thrown at them; the game having to be halted while the missiles were cleared.

It was a tragedy for the local officials who have built a new pavilion for the World Cup and whose other arrangements were first-class.

struggled and only an attacking lead stand between Dujon and Marshall had enabled them to finish the score they did. Pakistan made a similar poor start before Miandad, leading the side in Imran's absence, rallied his team.

Pakistan needed 69 from the last 10 overs as Marshall and Patterson returned. They continued to play aggressive shots despite the light, which was dreadful, even by English standards.

There were regular consultations between the umpires and captains before a final barrage of bottles decided the officials that there was no point in trying to continue.

Should the so-called rebels who, Roebuck, now aged 30, will leave Somerset to play for Lancashire, and probably leave cricket. He can afford to be metaphorical at any rate, since he has a first-class mind. It is rumoured that one national newspaper is delaying appointing a cricket correspondent until Somerset's problems are resolved.

The severing of his relationship with Roebuck is one suspects, the hurt Roebuck has felt most keenly. He would not comment on Richards' remarks

The rifts that cannot be healed

By Ivo Tennant

So immersed in thought was Peter Roebuck as he made his exit from the County ground, Taunton, on Monday afternoon that he left behind a note to a middle-aged lady. She told him, jokingly, that if he did that again he could no longer count on her vote at the special meeting of Somerset members this Saturday.

Such jocularities came as a relief to the Somerset captain, who has been a man of many moods since he was a hundred to his name. Many of the comments directed at him since he succeeded the committee's decision to release Viv Richards and Ivo Tennant have been far from pleasant. He has been insulted and physically threatened. It has all reached the stage that during the past fortnight, three investigative reporters picked camp in Taunton.

It has been a time of broken friendships, not least with Richards (as the West Indian made clear in *The Times* yesterday) Garner and Ian Botham, who will leave Somerset if the committee's decision is not reversed by Saturday. Whatever the outcome, Roebuck says the rifts are now too deep to be healed.

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Roebuck: may leave cricket

in *The Times* yesterday. Their friendship grew originally because of the latter's opposition. Roebuck, who won a scholarship to Millfield and a first class degree at Cambridge, is an obscure figure, ill at ease with fellow players and with his budding writing success as well.

When, in August, Somerset announced their decision to release Richards and Garner, Roebuck made a mistake. "I kept quiet for two or three weeks until personal advice forced me to make my opinions known," he said. "It was then seen as an extraordinary intervention."

Roebuck does not see the meeting on Saturday in that light; the future of the club is at stake. He is to his credit that he has stayed aloof from the mud-slinging of his opponents, partly because by his own admission he is a self and party man.

He does not intend speaking on Saturday - unless the accusations become too defamatory to stomach. He expects a charge of racism to be raised against the club by

FOR THE RECORD

Table with multiple columns listing sports records for American Football, Badminton, Basketball, Cycling, Golf, Ice Hockey, Rugby Fives, Squash Rackets, Tennis, and Winter Olympic Games.

WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

Public's ticket problem

Toronto (AP) - About a quarter of the tickets for the 1988 Winter Olympic Games in Calgary, Alberta, have been set aside and will not be available to the public.

The COOC have been criticized since it was learned last month that many of the best seats for the various events would not be generally available.

King said he thought most Canadians now realized "that the organizing committee is doing its best to be on the top of its game. We're looking after their interests as best we can."

SNOOKER

SOUTH-AFRICAN snooker player Steve Hogg (1) has defeated P. Higgins (2) 5-3 in the final of the 1986 World Snooker Championship.

OTHER SPORT

Neuchatel's Kazim (2) v Groningen (1) 2-1. Athletic Bilbao (1) v Beveren (2) 3-0. Bayer Uerdingen (W2) (1) v Widzew Lodz (1) 2-1.

Waddington's day

Stoke City are to hold a testimonial match in recognition of the 25 years' service in football of their former manager, Tony Waddington.

Mallender plans

The Northamptonshire seam bowler, Neil Mallender, currently playing for Oxford in New Zealand, may return to his native Yorkshire.

Littlewoods Cup

Nottingham Forest v Crystal Palace. Fourth division: Peterborough v Trarnore.

Football Combination

Bristol Rovers v Queens Park Rangers. Brighton (2) v Portsmouth (2) 2-2.

Other Sport

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